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Futuristic Outlook



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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.

Prof. Abid Hussain Khan Shirwani

Chief Advisor on Innovation, and Director ORIC/TISC – UMT

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A - School of Engineering & School of System and Technology

1. After Cybertruck Terror Attack, Elon Musk Screeches That Cybertrucks Are Bad for Terror Attacks

A Tesla Cybertruck exploded just outside the Trump Towers hotel in Las Vegas early Wednesday morning, killing the person occupying the vehicle and injuring seven others.

You'd be forgiven for initially suspecting the vehicle had burst into flames on its own, since others have previously. But investigators are now suggesting that the incident may have been an act of terrorism.

Now, Tesla CEO Elon Musk has chimed in — and instead of denouncing the mindless act of violence, he's arguing that the brutalist and highly divisive pickup truck was a poor choice for a would-be terrorist.

In a tone-deaf response on his social media echo chamber X, Musk claimed that the "Cybertruck is the worst possible choice for a car bomb, as its stainless steel armor will contain the blast better than any other commercial vehicle."

His defensiveness is understandable: the optics are exceptionally bad, with the Cybertruck — which has become a stand-in for Musk's increasingly extremist views — burning in front of a hotel part-owned by his number one ally, president-elect Donald Trump.

Musk was responding to an equally tone-deaf and largely unsubstantiated tweet by Trump minion Ian Miles Cheong, who claimed that "Elon's decision to build the Cybertruck like a tank may have saved many lives in Las Vegas today."

Despite a horde of Musk defenders quickly chiming in, arguing that the Cybertruck was therefore the "toughest and most badass truck ever made," experts quickly dismissed the claims.

"The Cybertruck survived largely intact because the guy who died built the worst 'VBIED' [vehicle-borne improvised explosive device] I've ever seen, not because the vehicle is 'built like a tank' (it's not)," tweeted explosives expert Hugo Kaaman.

"If I throw tiny pebbles at a window and it doesn't break, does that mean my windows are indestructible?" he added. "Come on."

The Cybertruck's purported durability has long been a point of contention. While Tesla chose to clad the exterior in a layer of stainless steel — a surprisingly poor choice for a vehicle meant for the outdoors — the Cybertruck has already experienced plenty of structural issues, from easily severed wheels to body panels that can be ripped off by hand. And that's just from being driven around like a normal truck.

It's unclear, of course, how a similarly sized pickup truck would've fared. The vehicle was rented from the carsharing app Turo, drawing an unusual connection to a separate and far more deadly New Orleans attack, which involved a man intentionally plowing a different truck into a New Year's Eve crowd mere hours earlier.

2. People Are Disgusted by Facebook's Plan to Deploy AI-Powered "Users"

Translation: 'Our real users are quitting the platform, so we will fill our community with fake users instead.'

First reported by the *Financial Times*, this plan to populate the dying social network with these so-called "characters" is geared towards driving engagement — even though other platforms, including Meta's Instagram, have been roiled by unauthorized bots for years.

We expect these AIs to actually, over time, exist on our platforms, kind of in the same way that accounts do," Connor Hayes, Meta's vice-president of product for generative AI, told the *FT*. "They'll have bios and profile pictures and be able to generate and share content powered by AI on the platform... that's where we see all of this going.

With advertising being their bread and butter and pretty much the reason they still exist, how is this legal and not misrepresenting numbers to clients?" another user mused. "If they tell advertisers that they get X number of impressions, engagement, etc. but those aren't real people anymore, that seems like straight up lying. Wild that they're just coming right out with it and doubling down."

For others, the prospect of fake users is yet another reason they're ditching Facebook.

3. Cyber truck Owner Who Decried Taxes Mocked for Begging for Help as California Wildfire Threatens His Property

A West Coast-based real estate mogul and Elon Musk fan named Keith Wasserman triggered a tidal wave of schadenfreude on social media after begging for "private firefighters" to come "protect our home" in the city as it's menaced by raging wildfires.

Los Angeles has been battling with several out-of-control fires this week, prompting evacuations. Well over a thousand structures have burned down already, and fires are expected to grow due to growing winds.

In a Wednesday tweet, Wasserman begged for help, asking if anybody had "access to private firefighters to protect our home in Pacific Palisades."

But Wasserman didn't get much pity online. Instead, he was swiftly mocked for asking for special treatment while thousands of Californians had no choice but to leave their homes behind — especially because, netizens were quick to point, a mere three months ago, Wasserman begged president-elect Donald Trump to cut taxes.

Homeboy went from 'Real estate ballers don't pay taxes' to 'will pay anything for private firefighters' real quick," one user wrote in a Threads post.

The ensuing media coverage appears to have been too much for Wasserman, who promptly deactivated his X account. That's despite praising X owner Elon Musk for purportedly bringing "free speech" to the platform just days earlier

4. Politicians Blame Los Angeles Fires on Explosion of AI Data Centers

The city of Los Angeles is still battling three fierce wildfires. As of Monday morning, at least 24 people have lost their lives and more than 120,000 structures have been either damaged or destroyed in the area. It's a devastating situation — and the required water to keep the flames at bay is as difficult as ever to come by. The West Coast has been battling severe droughts, with Southern California getting extremely little rain last year.

While the fires raged, hydrants ran dry last week, leaving some firefighters empty-handed in the city's greatest moment of need.

Meanwhile, as Politico reports, politicians have started pointing fingers at the burgeoning AI industry, which has garnered a reputation for sucking up staggering amounts of water to cool down the quickly-growing number of data centers powering it. As such, three California lawmakers introduced bills last week aimed at encouraging AI data processing centers to work toward sustainable water use standards, and holding them accountable to new transparency rules.

5. Tesla Driver Issues Warning After His Cybertruck Totals Itself on "Full Self-Driving" Mode

In a now-viral thread on X-formerly-Twitter, Florida-based owner Jonathan Challenger "crashed into a curb and then a light post" after failing to "merge out of a lane that was ending." His vehicle "made no attempt to slow down or turn until it had already hit the curb. Challenger used the opportunity to issue a warning.

For years now, regulators have been investigating Tesla's driver assistance software, finding last year that owners like Challenger are often lulled into a false sense of security, in large part due to Tesla and its CEO Elon Musk's woefully misleading marketing.

Musk has promised that autonomous driving will be realized "next year" every single year for over a decade now. But reality has struggled to catch up. Tesla currently still maintains that its FSD software requires drivers to be engaged and ready to take over

at all times. In practice, drivers like Challenger often zone out. Over the years, FSD and its overarching Autopilot suite have been linked to hundreds of crashes and dozens of deaths and have been implicated in countless lawsuits. The timing of Challenger's easily avoided collision is especially noteworthy, considering Musk has promised that an "unsupervised" version of FSD will be made available later this year.

B – School of Sciences

1. Scientists Say Something May Have Visited the Solar System and Rearranged the Planets

The Sun is an incandescent but benevolent dictator. For billions of years, it's kept our star system well organized through the influence of its powerful gravity. All the planets revolve around it on roughly the same plane, and they also move in the same direction.

Even so, there are slight anomalies in the architecture of our stellar neighborhood that can't be fully explained by the Sun's governance, some astronomers argue, because it appears that the orbits of the planets were altered at some point in the distant past.

Now, a new yet-to-be-peer-reviewed study suggests that an enormous interstellar object up to fifty times the mass of Jupiter may have been responsible for stirring the planets out of their original orbits — showing that perhaps not even the Sun can protect us from the chaos caused by foreign intruders.

The work joins other studies that have proposed interstellar flybys to explain eccentricities in the orbits of certain objects in the solar system.

2. China's "Artificial Sun" Just Smashed the Record for Stable Fusion Reaction

Scientists claim that China's "Artificial Sun" nuclear reactor has more than doubled its own previous world record, confining extremely high-energy plasma for a whopping

1,066 seconds this week (that's in comparison to its previous record of 403 seconds, set in 2023.)

Using the experimental reactor known as the Experimental Advanced Superconducting Tokamak (EAST), scientists heated plasma to temperatures over 100 million degrees Celsius, and managed to contain the swirling soup of atoms for over 17 minutes.

The goal is to essentially recreate the processes that power stars like the Sun inside nuclear fusion reactors here on Earth as a way to produce a renewable source of green energy — without running the risk of a nuclear meltdown, which still lingers at fission reactors like the Fukushima Daiichi plant that melted down in 2011.

3. Satellite Images Show China Building What Appears to Be a Huge Fusion Facility

Recently-released satellite imagery appears to show a research compound containing four large laser bays organized around one "target chamber," along with a handful of auxiliary buildings.

Reuters reports that analysts with CNA Corp — a research group funded by the US Department of Navy — who viewed the images say the target chamber will likely channel the power of the four laser bays to fuse hydrogen atoms together in the nuclear process known as fusion.

The Mianyang facility could have a variety of uses, from the development of clean energy to the testing of nuclear weapons without the need for thermonuclear detonation, a practice China and the US have agreed to halt.

Experimental fusion reactors aren't uncommon, though. The United States has been operating a similar site known as the National Ignition Facility in California since 2022, along with many other countries and startups; in fact, the United States and China are already partners, along with other international cohorts, on a massive experimental reactor in France called ITER, which is widely viewed as the most promising initiative in the still-elusive development of practical fusion power

generation. China is believed to be building a large laser-ignited fusion research center, according to experts at @CNA_org and @JamesMartinCNS. The Reuters report shares satellite images showing the facility's four arms for laser bays and the central target chamber to produce energy. This isn't the first time that China has made headlines for its domestic pursuit of fusion power, though.

Just weeks ago, researchers with the Institute of Plasma Physics under the Chinese Academy of Sciences (ASIPP) claimed to have set a new record by containing a slurry of high-energy plasma for over 17 minutes in a facility called the Experimental Advanced Superconducting Tokamak (EAST), also known as the "Artificial Sun." The accomplishment more than doubled the previous record for sustained fusion reaction, also set by EAST. (That reactor is pictured at the top of this article.)

4. James Webb Spots Mysterious Object Crossing Space Between Stars

NASA's groundbreaking James Webb Space Telescope has spotted a mysterious object that's freely floating through interstellar space. According to NASA, the "planetary-mass" object, dubbed SIMP 0136, is roughly 13 times the mass of Jupiter, and is located just 20 light-years from Earth. It's also spinning at a breakneck speed, completing a full rotation every 2.4 hours. Thanks to the JWST's detailed infrared light observations, an international team of researchers detected signs of "complex atmospheric features," including possible cloud layers and temperature shifts in the object's atmosphere, as detailed in a study they published in the journal *The Astrophysical Journal Letters*.

It's a fascinating glimpse at an exceedingly rare object. The researchers suggest in their paper that objects like SIMP 0136 could much in common with cloud giants in the solar system, like Jupiter and Saturn, which "also have multiple cloud layers and high-altitude hot spots" (except that it's floating through space without a star, that is.) Astronomers also aren't ruling out the possibility that it's a brown dwarf, an object that's between a planet and a star.

The latest research builds on existing observations by NASA's Hubble and Spitzer space telescopes. We already knew that it varies in brightness, and we were confident that there are patchy cloud layers that rotate in and out of view and evolve over time," said lead author and Boston University doctoral student Allison McCarthy in a NASA statement. "We also thought there could be temperature variations, chemical reactions, and possibly some effects of auroral activity affecting the brightness, but we weren't sure. James Webb's Near-Infrared Spectrograph allowed scientists to observe a much wider spectrum of infrared light, leading to fascinating new insights into the lonely object. Until now, we only had a little slice of the near-infrared spectrum from Hubble, and a few brightness measurements from Spitzer," said principal investigator and Trinity College Dublin assistant professor Johanna Vos in the statement.

5. Scientists Modified Genes In Mice to Give Them Traits of Woolly Mammoths, and the Results Are Frankly Adorable

That's because scientists at Colossal Biosciences say they've genetically engineered tiny rodents to possess the iconic shaggy locks of the woolly mammoth, in a stepping stone towards reviving the extinct creatures.

So, behold the extremely adorable "woolly mouse." With three times the hair length of an ordinary lab mouse, they're as fluffy as the titans they're imitating were enormous. And with any luck, the researchers at the "de-extinction" startup believe it's a step toward one day reintroducing mammoths back into their natural, frigid habitats.

For us, it's an incredibly big deal," Beth Shapiro, chief science officer at Colossal, told NPR. "This is really validation that what we have in mind for our longer-term de-extinction project is really going to work. The researchers, whose work on the mice is yet to be peer-reviewed, turned to the woolly mammoth's closest living relative, the Asian elephant. By comparing the Asian elephant's DNA to surviving genetic material from mammoths, the team identified the genes responsible for some of the mammoth's most distinguishing characteristics, including its hair and body fat, and then edited the corresponding genes in mice embryos to recreate these traits.

C- Institute of Aviation Studies

1. Mystery "Car-Sized" Drones Reach the Skies of New York

The mysterious "car-sized" drones plaguing the skies of New Jersey since last month have now been spotted in the Big Apple.

Additional sightings of the apparent UFOs were reported in the Empire State on Sunday night, with residents of Brooklyn saying they saw around a dozen drones flying over the New York City borough before crossing over to Staten Island.

There, residents say they witnessed the drones, too. Reports also indicate that some sightings have recently been made in Philadelphia.

As the sightings seem to spread across the tri-state area, the Federal Bureau of Investigation issued a statement to the media about the ongoing situation — and it sounds like its investigators are totally stumped. We understand the concern, and we are doing all we can to figure out what's going on," a spokesperson for the FBI Newark Field Office, which is leading the investigation, told PIX11 last Wednesday. "We truly don't have much information to provide at the moment.

Drones are officially in Brooklyn! In Bay Ridge approx 11pm-11:15pm, 10+ DRONES? Some had a little blinking white dot and as 1 or 2 flew away with green/yellow/red lights, the white dot ones turned on green/yellow/red lights then flew away.

2. A Boeing Jet's Nose Was Caught on Video Suddenly Collapsing to the Ground

In Belgium, a Boeing 737 jetliner quite literally fell on its nose — and the airline behind it is stumped as to what happened.

As Dutch-language Het Laatste Nieuws indicates, the nose landing gear of the TUI airlines-operated 737, which had landed earlier on the morning of January in Brussels after a flight from Spain, appeared to abruptly collapse while the jet was parked.

Luckily, no passengers were on board the jet at the time, and the all-Boeing airline confirmed that there were no injuries sustained during the bizarre incident that quickly spread on social media after onlookers posted images and videos of the collapse.

3. Commercial Jets Forced to Divert After Elon Musk's Starship Explodes, Raining Fiery Debris Through Sky

While it may have provided an eye-popping spectacle for spectators on the ground, the mid-flight explosion of SpaceX's Starship on Thursday evening posed a serious threat to nearby aircraft. The scale of the disruption was significant. The flight tracking website FlightRadar24 found that dozens of commercial flights — including cargo jets and passenger airliners from JetBlue and American Airlines — either altered course or were diverted to other airports to stay clear of the debris field, per Reuters. Some circled mid-flight, while others performed a hard-180.

Meanwhile, departures from airports in Miami and Fort Lauderdale, Florida, were delayed by about 45 minutes. The Federal Aviation Administration said it was responsible for briefly slowing and diverting planes in the vicinity where the Starship debris was falling by creating a "debris response area."

4. As Airplanes Fall Out of Sky, FAA Fires Hundreds and Brings In Elon Musk

Donald Trump kicked off his presidency by gutting aviation regulators — and almost immediately, saw the US's deadliest air accident in over twenty years happen under his watch.

Now, his Transportation secretary Sean Duffy says the already beleaguered Federal Aviation Administration has just laid off "less than 400" employees, Axios reports, even as the country is beset with a flurry of more high-profile aviation incidents.

And that's bad enough — but wait till you hear which recurring character they're calling in to pick up the pieces.

The safety of air travel is a non-partisan matter," Musk wrote on X Sunday. "SpaceX engineers will help make air travel safer."

Musk meddling with the FAA raises numerous conflicts of interests. His company SpaceX has frequently butted heads with the regulator for halting the launches of its rockets like Starship. Prior to Trump taking office, Musk repeatedly called for the previous FAA administrator, who enforced those decisions that the president's First Buddy didn't like, to resign. Musk eventually got his way.

Is Musk in any way qualified for the job? Launching rockets isn't the same thing as coordinating the tens of thousands of flights that take place in the US every day. The answer is no — but it's not a question that's stopped him from deciding how other federal agencies are supposed to function over the past few weeks.

Paired with the downsizing of the aviation agency, Musk's incursion puts additional scrutiny on the Trump administration's handling of American airspace. The cuts were carried out as part of the Musk-led Department of Government Efficiency's latest effort to downsize the federal workforce by firing "probationary" employees, or workers who were hired or promoted to their position in the past year.

D - School of Governance and Society

1. MAGA Figures Turn on Elon Musk for Not Hating Immigrants Enough

Over the holiday week, Musk entered into a heated online conflict with notable pro-Trump figure and culture warrior Laura Loomer over the president-elect's immigration policy, the *Washington Post* reports.

The debacle saw Musk receive rare pushback from his far-right supporters for advocating laxer immigration policy to court skilled foreign workers, and culminated with Loomer, who has over 1.4 million followers on X, claiming that her account was being silenced by the platform's billionaire owner for espousing her nationalist views. The infighting could augur a growing rift between the tech figures who have come to support Trump and the extreme right wing of his base.

It's a sign of future conflicts," Samuel Hammond, a senior economist at the Foundation for American Innovation, told *WaPo*. "This is like the pregame."

At issue is Trump's decision to name Sriram Krishan, an Indian-born tech entrepreneur, as his senior policy advisor on AI. Loomer is not a fan of Krishan's history of supporting policies that would more easily allow skilled workers to come to the US and stay for longer periods. And though she and her contingent denies it, she's also an unrepentant racist, viciously denigrating Indians as "third world invaders" in a flurry of other descriptors that are too foul and too numerous to repeat here.

At any rate, such visas, which provide what's known as H-1B nonimmigrant status, are essential to the tech industry and others that depend on a steady supply of eager-to-work, highly educated professionals from abroad to perform very technical jobs. As nationalists like Loomer took to criticize Krishan's nomination, tech figures, some originally immigrants themselves, came to his defense, including Trump advisers David Sacks and Vivek Ramaswamy, championing high-skilled immigration as the lifeblood of America.

2. Trump Seems Awfully Touchy About the Impression That He's Taking Orders From Elon Musk

Now that multi-hyphenate billionaire Elon Musk's deep pockets got Donald Trump reelected, some tough questions have emerged for the incoming administration.

Trump isn't laughing as Musk continues taking matters into his own hands, often giving the impression that the SpaceX CEO rather than his septuagenarian pal is really in charge of the upcoming White House.

Trump spokesperson Karoline Leavitt seemed very touchy today about the suggestion that it's Musk calling the shots.

"As soon as President Trump released his official stance on [efforts to avoid a government shutdown], Republicans on Capitol Hill echoed his point of view," she said. "President Trump is the leader of the Republican Party. Full stop."

Trump has previously issued a jokesy warning to Musk not to undermine his authority too much. But the situation gained new momentum this week when Musk took to X, in a barrage of over 100 posts, to pressure lawmakers to kill a bipartisan spending bill that would avoid an imminent government shutdown.

Though he's been put in charge of a so-called Department of Government Efficiency, which will operate from outside the government and play only an advisory role to slash the federal budget, Musk isn't an elected politician.

Yet to Democrats and Republicans alike, his repeated calls to torpedo the bill efforts which have appeared to pay off made it feel like he was setting the agenda, instead of Trump himself.

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

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, Republican's support AI Development rooted in Free Speech and Human Flourishing.

4. State Department Insider on Elon Musk Accessing Nuclear Weapons: "If You Make Something Idiot-Proof, the World Will Build a Better Idiot"

Elon Musk's government takeover is freaking tons of people out — especially as at least one of his DOGE lackeys has reportedly been given access to the same system as the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA), which safeguards the nation's atomic arsenal.

But you can breathe easy for now. In an interview with The Verge, a State Department official said that as of right now, there's little chance that one of Musk's flunkies could access America's nukes.

According to that State employee, the chances of Musk or DOGE accessing our nuclear weapons are "zero" because, as they explained, America's arsenal simply isn't

connected to the internet. Instead, it runs on a closed network with the explicit purpose of nuclear governance in mind.

As The Verge notes, that closed nuclear network still uses equipment from the 1960s and 70s, making it more concerning that the decrepit system — which still used floppy disks until 2019 — would fail to function in a crisis than that it would be infiltrated by overzealous children.

I also firmly believe that if you make something idiot-proof," the person said, "the world will build a better idiot."

Alex Wallerstein, a nuclear expert with the Stevens Institute of Technology, told The Verge that the best way for Musk to access the nuclear arsenal would be to pull a good old-fashioned con.

5. Elon Musk Asks If He Can Re-Hire His Incredibly Racist DOGE Boy

A young Department of Government Efficiency staffer resigned after his incredibly racist tirades on social media came to light. Ever the civil servant, the self-styled "First Buddy" floated the idea via a poll on X — his favored institution of democratic governance. An investigation by The Wall Street Journal found that Elez, a Rutgers alum and computer science major, used a recently-deleted X account to boast about his racist beliefs and advocate for eugenics.

6. Strengthening Economic Cooperation between the European Union and Pakistan – High-level Business Forum Set for May 2025

Islamabad, 25th March 2025: The Delegation of the European Union to Pakistan, in collaboration with the Government of Pakistan, is proud to announce the first-ever High-Level EU-Pakistan Business Forum which will take place in Islamabad on 14-15 May 2025.

The EU is the largest single market in the world and the largest destination for Pakistani exports. The EU is also the world's largest foreign investor representing 42% of outward foreign direct investment globally.

With a rapidly growing market of over 240 million people, competitive labour costs, strategic geographical access to Central and South Asia and a preferential trade access to the EU, Pakistan offers immense business opportunities.

To enhance economic cooperation between the EU and Pakistan, the EU-Pakistan Business Forum will bring together high-level policy makers (including the Prime Minister, Minister of Finance and Minister of Commerce), business leaders and CEOs from Pakistan and Europe, Financial Institutions such as the European Investment Bank, investors and other key stakeholders.

During the two days of the High-Level Business Forum, Pakistan's potential, innovation and best practices in key sectors (including agribusiness, energy and renewables, green logistics, pharmaceuticals, IT and textiles) will be showcased. The Forum will foster dialogue between the government and the private sector to improve the regulatory framework and facilitate trade while promoting sustainable business practices. The event will also present the EU's Global Gateway strategy, its largest investment programme outside of the EU that aims to leverage EUR 300 billion of investments worldwide until 2027.

EU Ambassador Dr. Riina Kionka remarked, "European companies are recognising Pakistan as a potential business destination. This forum serves as a vital platform to strengthen collaboration between European and Pakistani businesses, deepens bilateral trade, and explores new avenues for economic partnership. It also is an opportunity for Pakistan to benefit from the opportunities of Global Gateway".

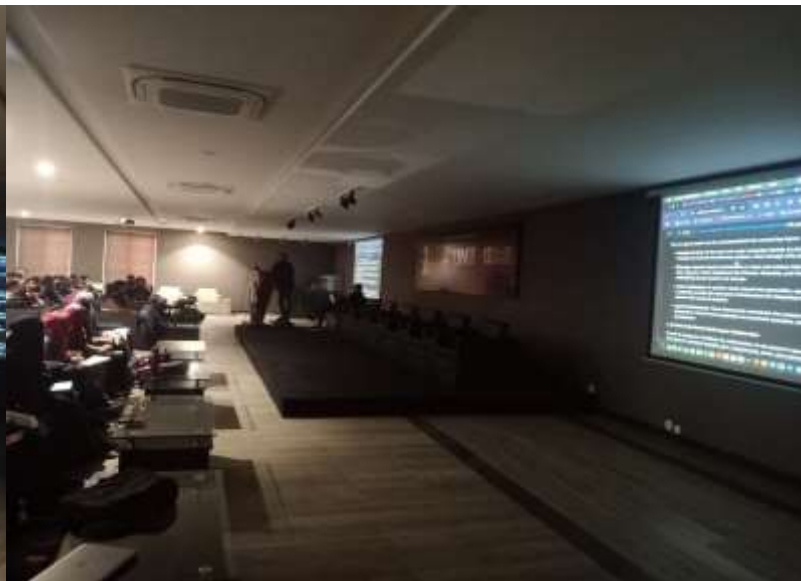
Besides dedicated Business-to-Business and Business-to-Government meetings, engaging discussions, dedicated exhibitions, the EU Pakistan Business Forum will also mark the launch of the EU-Pakistan Business Network – which will group together the 300+ European companies active in Pakistan.

E – Office of Research Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC)

1: Events Organized and Facilitated by ORIC

1.1 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, January 05, 2025 from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM in Hakim Saeed Seminar Hall, Main Building, UMT



1.2 Attend a Session on AI-Ready University, CTL in Collaboration with CEI Presents:

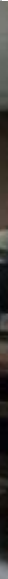
The Office of Research Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC) participated in a transformative session titled “AI-Ready University”, organized by CTL in collaboration with CEI. This engaging panel discussion explored how academia can adapt and lead in the era of artificial intelligence.

The event took place on Wednesday, January 8, 2025, from 10:30 AM to 1:00 PM in Saleem Asghar Ali Hall, UMT.



1.3 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, January 12, 2025 from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM in Hakim Saeed Seminar Hall, Main Building, UMT



1.4 Successful Visit to Iqbal Academy Pakistan (IAP) for Collaborative Research Projects

We are delighted to share the successful visit to Iqbal Academy Pakistan (IAP) on January 14, 2025. The visit, organized by the Office of Research, Innovation, and Commercialization (ORIC) in collaboration with the School of Systems and Technology (SST), was an excellent opportunity to explore collaborative initiatives between UMT and IAP.

During the visit, our team, including Senior faculty members from SST and representatives from ORIC, engaged in productive discussions with the leadership and staff of IAP. Key outcomes of the visit include:

1. **Internship Opportunities:** IAP will offer internships to undergraduate students in programs like BS(CS), BS(IT), BS (Cyber Security), and others.
2. **Mobile App Development:** UMT will support the enhancement of IAP's existing Android app and the development of an iOS app.
3. **Iqbal Research Portal:** Collaboration on a digital research portal for Iqbal studies, involving UMT MS students.
4. **Library Digitization:** Plans to digitize IAP's library with support from UMT's library team.
5. **IAP Journals:** Joint efforts to elevate the academic categorization of IAP's journal.
6. **Dramatic Society Collaboration:** Partnership opportunities for Iqbal-themed performances.
7. **Interior Redesign of IAP:** Engagement of UMT's School of Architecture and Planning (SAP) for revamping IAP's interior.
8. **Final Year Projects (FYPs):** Involvement of final-year UMT students in IAP-related projects.





1.5 Office of Research Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC) Hosts Meeting for Final Year Project Heads of UMT on All Universities PHEC Innovation Expo 2025

On January 16, 2025, the Office of Research, Innovation, and Commercialization (ORIC) at UMT successfully organized a meeting with the Final Year Project Heads of various schools in preparation for the All-Punjab Universities Innovation Expo 2025. The meeting was held in the DG Boardroom, 5th Floor, Admin Building, UMT Lahore, and chaired by Prof. Abid H. K. Shirwani, Chief Advisor on Innovation and Director ORIC.



1.6. Prof. Abid H. K. Shirwani, Chief Advisor on Innovation and Director of ORIC, attended the 27th Convocation held at UMT Green.

Prof. Abid H. K. Shirwani, Chief Advisor on Innovation and Director of ORIC, attended the 27th Convocation held at UMT Green on Saturday, January 18, 2024. During the ceremony, he distributed degrees among the graduating students.



1.7 Panel Discussion on “Investment in Agriculture under CPEC Phase II Organized by the Office of Research, Innovation, and Commercialization (ORIC), UMT

The Panel Discussion on “Investment in Agriculture under CPEC Phase II” was organized by the Office of Research, Innovation, and Commercialization (ORIC), UMT, in collaboration with Beaconhouse National University (BNU). The purpose of this panel discussion was to address the challenges in the agriculture sector and explore strategies to enhance agricultural production and exports.

Ambassador Mansoor Ahmad Khan, Director of the Center for Policy Research (BCPR), Beaconhouse National University (BNU), and Prof. Abid H. K. Shirwani, Chief Advisor on Innovation and Director ORIC, moderated the discussion. Esteemed panelists included Dr. Shujaat Ali, former Federal Secretary, Dr. Allah Bakhsh, Syed Muhammad Nasir Ali, Dr. Muhammad Sajid, and Peter Huang Pei, who joined via Zoom from China.

Representing UMT, Dr. Hafiz Ubaid Ur Rahman, Acting Dean of the School of Food and Agricultural Sciences (SFAS), Waqas Asghar, Lecturer at SFAS, Dr. Aisha Azhar, Dean of the School of Governance and Society (SGS) and Chairperson of the Department of Economics and Quantitative Methods, and Associate Professor Dr. Hasan Murad from the School of Management (HSM) contributed significantly to the discussions.

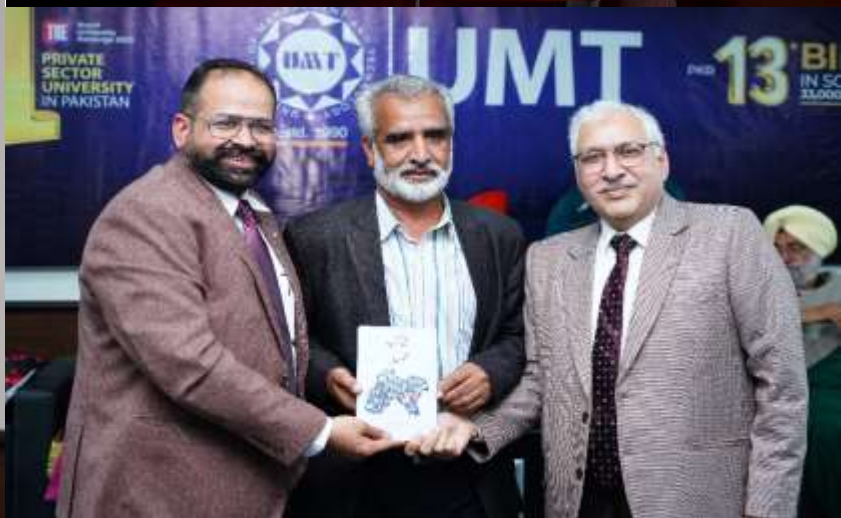
The panel also welcomed representatives from Bahria University, LUMS, and Beaconhouse National University (BNU), ensuring a diverse and insightful exchange of ideas.





1.8 Attended book Launch Ceremony " پنج آب دے شہسوار " by Prof. Abid H. K. Shirwani, Chief Advisor on Innovation and Director ORIC

Attended the book launch ceremony of " پنج آب دے شہسوار " by Navdeep Singh Gill, along with Prof. Abid H. K. Shirwani (Chief Advisor on Innovation and Director ORIC) and the ORIC staff. The event included discussions on the book's purpose and the significance of sports in the subcontinent. The ceremony was held on January 21, 2025, at 3:00 PM in Saleem Asghar Hall (1C17), UMT, and was organized by the Office of Participant Affairs (OPA), UMT.



1.9 Collaboration Meeting with Iqbal Academy Pakistan

A meeting with Iqbal Academy Pakistan was held to explore collaboration opportunities for a Research Journal and the Dramatic Society. The session was organized by the Office of Research, Innovation, and Commercialization (ORIC) and the Office of Participant Affairs (OPA), UMT. The meeting took place in the DG Boardroom, 5th Floor, Admin Building, UMT. Delegation is also visited research support by Knowledge and Research Support Services (KRSS) Office for Journal and UMT Library





1.10 Attending Exhibition of School of School of Food and Agricultural Sciences

On January 27, 2025, Prof. Abid H. K. Shirwani, Chief Advisor on Innovation and Director ORIC, attended the remarkable exhibition organized by the School of Food and Agricultural Sciences (SFAS), UMT. The exhibition showcased innovative projects by final-year and 7th-semester students.

Prof. Abid H. K. Shirwani appreciated the students' efforts and their unique project ideas, offering valuable suggestions from an industry perspective to further enhance their work. He also commended the dedication of the student supervisors and acknowledged the efforts of Dr. Hafiz Ubaid Ur Rahman, Acting Dean of SFAS, in guiding and supporting the students.



1.11 Prof. Abid H. K. Shirwani, Chief Advisor on Innovation and Director of ORIC Attend 2nd UMT Research Conference.

Prof. Abid H. K. Shirwani, Chief Advisor on Innovation and Director of ORIC, attended the 2nd UMT Research Conference on February 18-19, 2025, at Hakeem Saeed Seminar Hall, UMT. Prof. Dr. Mohammad Nizamuddin (SI), Pro-Rector at Superior University and Former Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission, graced the event as the Chief Guest. The conference was attended by UMT's Deans, Directors, and Researchers, along with Rector Dr. Asif Raza and Provost Dr. Asghar Zaidi, making it a remarkable and insightful gathering.



1.12 Introductory Lecture on the Inventor Assistance Program (IAP) Collaboration with Intellectual Property Organization of Pakistan (IPO), and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO):

The Office of Research Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC), in collaboration with the Intellectual Property Organization of Pakistan (IPO) and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), organized an Introductory Lecture on the Inventor Assistance Program (IAP). The lecture focused on the program's objectives and its potential feasibility for Pakistani inventors. The session facilitated interaction between university representatives and patent attorneys, promoting collaboration to support under-resourced inventors. Encouragement for local patent professionals to volunteer, enhancing the program's capacity to provide assistance. The session underscored the collaborative efforts between UMT and IPO, Pakistan in promoting intellectual property rights and supporting innovation among resource-constrained inventors. Discussions highlighted the importance of academic institutions in identifying potential beneficiaries and raising awareness about the IAP. This workshop was held on Thursday, February 27, 2025, from 11:00 AM to 01:00 PM in the DG Board Room, 5th Floor, Admin Building, UMT Lahore.







1.13 Attended Pre Plan Meeting on 10th Invention to Innovation Summit, 2025

A Pre-Planning Meeting for the 10th Invention to Innovation Summit 2025 was held on March 24, 2025, with representatives from ORIC University of the Punjab and ORIC UMT. The meeting focused on planning and organizing the upcoming summit, which is scheduled to take place on April 22-23, 2025.

The 10th Invention to Innovation Summit 2025 will be jointly organized by the Office of Research, Innovation & Commercialization (ORIC), University of Management & Technology (UMT), and the University of the Punjab. The summit aims to foster innovation, collaboration, and knowledge exchange between academia, industry, and researcher



Analysis of ORIC-UMT Scorecard Evaluation

Report by HEC (2023-24)

- **ORIC-UMT Position in Pakistan, in Private Sector = 3rd**
- **ORIC-UMT Position in Punjab in Private Sector = 2nd**
- **ORIC-UMT Overall Position in Pakistan in Public and Private Sector = 12th**
- **ORIC-UMT Position in Punjab, in Public and Private Sector = 5th**
- **ORIC-UMT Position in Lahore in Public and Private Sector = 2nd**
- **ORIC-UMT Position in Lahore in Private Sector = 2nd**

Rank	University	Score	Category
1	National University of Sciences and Technology, Islamabad	89	W
2	Air University, Islamabad	83.5	W
3	University of Agriculture, Faisalabad	81.5	W
4	The University of Lahore	80.5	W
5	NED University of Engineering and Technology, Karachi	80	W
6	Sukkur Institute of Business Administration, Sukkur	80	W
7	Ziauddin University, Karachi	78	X
8	Muhammad Nawaz Shareef University of Agriculture, Multan	77	X
9	DOW University of Health Sciences, Karachi	73.5	X
10	Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University, Rawalpindi	69.5	X
11	National Textile University, Faisalabad	69.5	X
12	University of Management & Technology, Lahore	69	X