



# Governance and Society

Newsletter of School of Governance and Society

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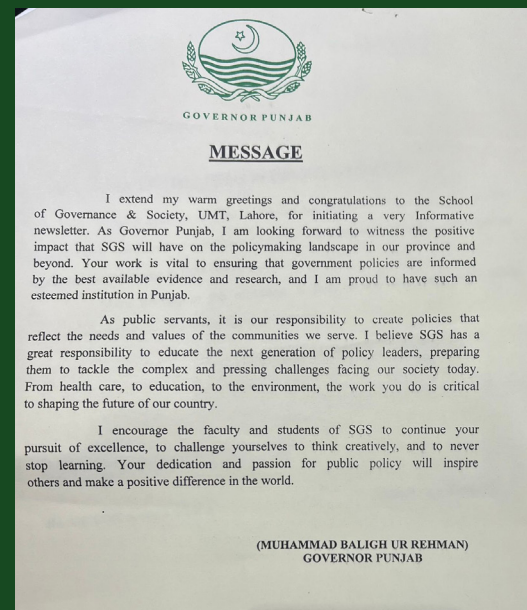


## MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR PUNJAB, MUHAMMAD BALIGH UR REHMAN

I extend my warm greetings and congratulations to the School of Governance and Society, UMT, Lahore, for initiating a very informative newsletter. As Governor of Punjab, I am looking forward to witness the positive impact that SGS will have on the policymaking landscape in our province and beyond. Your work is vital to ensuring that government policies are informed by the best available evidence and research, and I am proud to have such an esteemed institution in Punjab.

As public servants, it is our responsibility to create policies that reflect the needs and values of the communities we serve. I believe SGS has a great responsibility to educate the next generation of policy leaders, preparing them to tackle the complex and pressing challenges facing our society today. From health care, to education, to the environment, the work you do is critical to shaping the future of our country.

I encourage the faculty and students of SGS to continue your pursuit of excellence, to challenge yourselves to think creatively, and to never stop learning. Your dedication and passion for public policy will inspire others and make a positive difference in the world.



## Message from Barrister Syed Azfer Ali Nasir, Caretaker Minister for Auqaf and Religious Affairs, Zakat and Usher, Punjab



I take this opportunity to extend my warmest greetings to all the faculty, staff and students of the School of Governance and Society. I express my admiration for the important work that the School is doing in providing students with the skills and knowledge necessary to make a positive impact on society and to prepare the next generation of leaders for our country. Your commitment to providing students with the knowledge, skills, and experiences they need to succeed in the ever-changing landscape of governance is truly inspiring.

As the leading businessman and now the provincial caretaker minister, I understand the importance of having a well-educated and informed workforce that can navigate the complex challenges facing our government and our country. I believe governance plays a critical role in shaping the future of our country, and it is imperative that we

invest in the development of our leaders to ensure that they are equipped with the tools and resources they need to make informed decisions that positively impact the lives of our citizens. That is why I am particularly pleased to see SGS's focus on providing students with practical, hands-on learning experiences, as well as opportunities to engage with industry experts and policymakers. The newsletter 'Governance and Society' adequately mirrors these endeavors.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my support to the School of Governance as it continues its important work. I am confident that with your commitment and dedication, you will continue to produce leaders who will make a positive difference in the world.

## Message from the Co-founder and Director General UMT, Mr Abid H K Sherwani



As at UMT we offer to be a part of the exciting life-long voyage of learning for leadership and bringing destiny closer, School of Governance and Society (SGS) is definitely playing a pivotal role in this regard. My great friend and founder of UMT, Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad (Shaheed) stated that the greatest loss that can happen to a person is the lack of ambition to become great. That is human potential gone unchecked, unharnessed. The profound knowledge of Public Policy and Public Administration, being diligently imparted and inculcated in Master's and Bachelor's students by SGS, is aptly commensurate with the dream of excellence and greatness seen by the visionary Dr Hasan. I am delighted to see that these endeavors are duly being reflected in SGS quarterly, 'Governance & Society', which will keep the students, faculty and stakeholders abreast of all these efforts. Through G & S

one can see that the department is encouraging the students to participate in conferences, roundtables, seminars and workshops that portray a vibrant conducive learning environment.

I congratulate Dr Naveed Elahi and the team for producing this very informative and interesting newsletter that mirrors the indefatigable spirit and incessant efforts of the SGS faculty for the development of leadership skills and executive talent among the students and to achieve excellence in the comity of the institutions of public policy education.



## Section 1: ROUND TABLE

### Round Table Discussion on Role of Media in Public Policy Formulation and Implementation (March 07, 2023)



Dr Naveed Elahi (Professor, School of Governance and Society) moderated the discussion which was attended by Barrister Syed Azfer Ali (Caretaker Minister for Auqaf and Religious Affairs, Zakat and Usher, Punjab), Mr Isar Rana (Group Editor Daily Pakistan), Prof Dr.Anjum Zia (Dean Media and Communication Studies, UMT), Prof Rahat-ul-Ain (Professor, School of Governance and Society), Dr Mujahid Ali Mansoori, Former Professor of Journalism (Columnist, Editor and Educationist) and Mr Mustafa Kamal Pasha (Anchor and Journalist). Director SGS, Dr Aisha Azhar and Dr Seemi Waheed also attended the event.

It was highlighted during the discussion that media plays a significant role in public policy formulation and evaluation. Overall, the media's role in public policy formulation and evaluation is to inform and engage the public in the policy-making process, hold policymakers accountable for their actions, and promote transparency and accountability in government decision-making. The panelists pointed out that media was the most important stakeholder in public policy as all other stakeholders like civil society organizations, NGOs, think tanks, etc. use media as the

vehicle to promote and propel their views. Isar Rana was of the view that as mostly the media was owned by real estate tycoons and businessmen, it was not operating in a positive and professional manner.

All the panelists agreed that public policymakers ought to foster open dialogue through media so that all could participate in policy making and implementation process. On the other hand, the media should be careful in agenda-setting and promote policies that address the problems of the people. They should provide reliable, unbiased and constructive feedback to our policymakers and implementers. Citizen journalism is most common these days but we need a system to comprehend it and align it with our public values. Thus, in a nutshell, all panelists maintained that the inclusion and role of media in the execution and implementation of policies is very crucial. We need to empower and legitimize this institution for our policy deliverables.

In light of this discussion, a comprehensive report containing recommendations would be prepared and circulated among the media circles, bureaucracy, politicians and academics.



## SECTION 2: INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

### International Conference on Governance, Sustainability and Resilience in a Post-Covid Period (January 23-25, 2023)

The School of Governance and Society (SGS), at the University of Management and Technology (UMT), organized a three-day International Hybrid Conference on Governance, Sustainability, and Resilience in the Post-Covid Period (ICGSR, 2023) from 23 - 25 January 2023. The conference was organized from the Sustainable Water Resources Initiative Platform (SWRI), created by Dr Seemi Waheed in 2022 for carrying out research, organizing talks, discussions, conferences, etc. The knowledge partners included the College of Earth, and Environment Studies (CEES), University of the Punjab, HEC, UNICEF and SWRI. The themes of ICGSR included climate change and adaptation, Urban planning, water, and sanitation, food security, Interdisciplinarity in climate change, Rethinking water management and technology in changing climate, Technology adaptability and sustainability, Resilience and communities, Collaborative Governance and Collective action in society.

The notable participants and speakers were Mr Kamran Naeem, National UNICEF Chief on Climate Change; Dr Aisha Azhar (Chair); Dr Seemi Waheed, organizer; Prof Dr Saleemul Huq (OBE) Director of the International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD), Bangladesh; Prof Dr

Meghna Sabharwal, Head of the Department, University of Texas, Dallas, Prof Dr Sajid Rasheed, Principal College of Earth, Environment Studies (CEES), University of Punjab, Rector UMT Dr Asif Raza; Day 2: Professor Dr Edella Schlagar, Director, School of Government and Public Policy, University of Arizona; Dr Hassan Abbas, Founding Chairman, ZiZAK Private Limited; Dr Abid Bodla, Member Climate Change, Punjab Planning and Development Department, Dr Yusuf Zafar, Former Chairman Pakistan Agriculture Research Council, Ms Simi Kamal, CEO and Founding Director of Hissar Foundation; Dr Shabana Naveed, Associate Professor, Faculty of Management Sciences, UCP; Ms Deeba, Head of Training Rescue 1122. Day 3: Mr Sohail Ahmad, Former Federal Secretary, Dr Faisal Sultan, CEO of Shaukat Khanum Memorial Trust, Dr Rizwan Naseer, Director General, Punjab Emergency Services (Rescue 1122); Mr Abid Saeed CEO PRSP, Dr. Arfa Zehra Sayyeda, Professor of History FCCU. Dr Daanish Mustafa, Professor King's College, UK; Mr Saad Khan, Managing Director at Pakoswiss Technologies (Pvt) Ltd; Dr Saba Siddiki, Associate Professor, Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs.



For detailed information do visit our website [swri.umt.edu.pk/ICGSR-2023.html](http://swri.umt.edu.pk/ICGSR-2023.html) and get hands-on intellectual experience.

## SECTION 3: SEMINAR

### Seminar on Restructuring Bureaucracy in Pakistan (February 09, 2023)

The Office of Forums and Events (OFE) in collaboration with the School of Governance and Society (SGS) as a knowledge partner, organized a policy dialogue on Restructuring Bureaucracy in Pakistan. The Guest Speakers were Dr Ishrat Hussain (Ex-

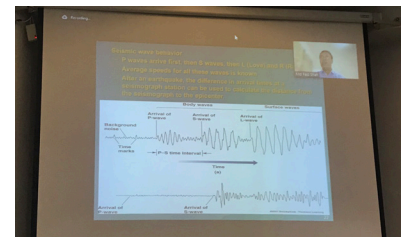


Governor of State Bank of Pakistan), Dr Nadeem ul Haque (Vice-Chancellor of Pakistan Institute of Development Economics, Islamabad), and Fawad Hassan Fawad (Former Civil Servant). Rector UMT Dr Asif Raza, Acting President UMT Lt Gen (R) Javed Hasan, Director School of Governance and Society (SGS) Dr Aisha Azhar, senior management, faculty and students also attended the event. Director SGS Dr Aisha Azhar moderated the session. Vice-Chancellor PIDE Dr Nadeem ul Haque expressed that unfortunately Pakistan lacks a governance system and credited the passive role of local government, and tacit ways of corruption for it. Former Bureaucrat, Fawad Hassan Fawad, expressed that there is a strong need to restructure and reform the civil services in Pakistan. The system needs to bring and highlight young minds in the appropriate governance framework. Former Governor SBP Dr Ishrat Husain expressed his gratitude to be at UMT and appreciated the progress UMT has made in such a short period of time. According to him, the current need is to have the best officers in service at the local government level who are courteous, objective and intelligent. The rector of UMT, Dr Asif Raza emphasized the collective approach as a society we need to reflect upon our policy choices and options. We need to be responsible citizens to bring forth collaborative and sustainable developments in Pakistan.



## Webinar on Earthquake Risk Reduction - Lessons from the Turkish Earthquake 2023 (February 17, 2023)

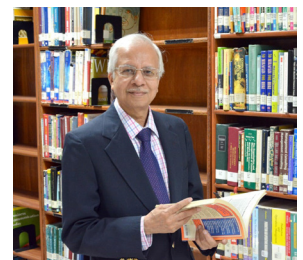
The Center for Disaster Management and the School of Governance and Society organized a lecture on “Earthquake Risk Reduction - Lessons from the Turkish Earthquake 2023” by Dr Md Faiz Shah, Lecturer, School of Engineering and Technology, CQ University, Melbourne. The lecture was focused on answering the key questions: Can Earthquakes be predicted and forecasted in advance? What failures may have led to the widespread destruction of buildings in Turkey? How to improve building codes, and their enforcement to guide the reconstruction process.



## SECTION 4: FACULTY NEWS

### Farewell to Prof Rahat ul Ain

The founding director of the School of Governance and Society, Prof Rahat ul Ain, who had a long association with UMT and SGS, had decided to call it a day. He has been an integral part of our UMT community and has contributed immensely to the growth and success of not only SGS but the UMT too. He has been a mentor, a friend and an inspiration to all, and will be missed dearly. Farewell lunch was hosted in his honor on Thursday, March 16, 2023, at the Saleem Asghar Hall.



### Ms Ifrah Khalid joined SGS as a Lecturer

Ifrah Khalid received her MPhil Public Policy degree from Forman Christian College Lahore (FCCU) and her bachelor’s degree from Government College University Lahore (GCU) in Economics. She was a lecturer at the University of Lahore for two and a half years. She has gained experience in research as well. Her research interest includes governance and public policy, economic development, women empowerment and social issues.



## SECTION 5: STUDENT PROFILES

### MS Public Policy

MS (Public Policy) Batch'23

Views of the students from MS Public Policy - Sharing their experience at SGS



Through this program, I am gaining a deeper understanding of public policies and how the systems work. I am looking forward to using this knowledge and skills to make a meaningful difference in the public, private, or non-profit sector after graduation.

**Fahad Ahmad**  
**Rector's Medal (Silver Medalist in Bachelor's Degree)**

I belong to Afghanistan, and for me, it was very interesting to analyze the countries' relationships, provided by the course Public Policy Analysis. I have learned and understand that it is essential for developing countries to maintain a balance in foreign policy with superpowers.

**Hasib Rehman Jawad**  
**MS Scholar**

This course actually opens up pathways for new public policy analysts to transform their best ideas into solutions regarding problems by policy making and then to properly analyze their outcomes. The best part of this course is to propose the best policy solutions and to know more about societal problems.

**Sayrah Arshad**  
**MS Scholar**  
**Dean Award (MS PP)**

The competent and versatile faculty enables students to understand the opportunities and challenges that exist in every area of public policy. Besides this, the program equips students with the leadership and management skills necessary for public governance.

**Sana Amir Bajwa**  
**MS Scholar**  
**Dean award (MS PP)**

## SECTION 6: EXTRACURRICULAR LIFE AT SGS

### Stories from BS (Public Administration)

**Rameen Javed - President of Disaster Relief Society DRS (2022 – 2023)**

I participated in volunteer projects in different NGOs and recognized by Baitussalam and Shaukat Khanum Cancer Memorial Hospital. I have done internships in government departments of LDA, TDCP and Secretariat as well as in the private sector of IT Solutions. I have studied the course on Public Health interventions in pandemics and epidemics from World Health Organization (WHO) also.



## Noman Saeed

I am interested and passionate to work on extracurricular projects and gets hand-on experience on our policy problems. I recently did internship with the Assistant commissioner Khanewal and keenly observed the protocols of public service delivery mechanisms. It was a life-changing experience for me.



## Leaders Forum UMT, Abdul Mateen Ali (Vice President UMT) Sohaib Hassan (Campus Head) Bilal Ashar (Ambassador)

The students of SGS are highly active through leaders forum UMT to engage the student body in multiple extracurricular activities. They organized successful events like Tabeer, seminar on safe water provision, sessions on Philanthropy, women empowerment and on prophetic leadership.



## SECTION 7: MISCELLANEOUS

### Journal of Public Policy Practitioners

The School of Governance and Society (SGS) has launched "Journal of Public Policy Practitioners", primarily to publish the original research work of civil servants, serving and retired, in the sphere of public policy. We are looking for paper submissions for our volume 2, issue 1. The details of the format and pattern are present on our website for guidance, <https://journals.umat.edu.pk/index.php/jppp>. The selected final paper (5000-7000 words) should be submitted by April 15, 2023, to be reviewed by reviewers.



### Thesis defense of MS Public Policy

Following students of MS Public Policy, SGS successfully defended their dissertations:

1. Impact of Public's Belief in Conspiracy Theories on Polio Vaccination Programs in Pakistan: **Shehzada Sameeullah**
2. Coalition Functioning and Performance: Insights from an Advocacy Network: **Mah Rukh Liaqat.**
3. Exploring the Challenges to the Women's Participation in Pakistan's Politics: **Laiqa Muneer.**

### Annual Dinner of SGS

School of Governance and Society arranged an annual dinner for its student body. Students appreciated the efforts of the management and explored other opportunities at SGS.



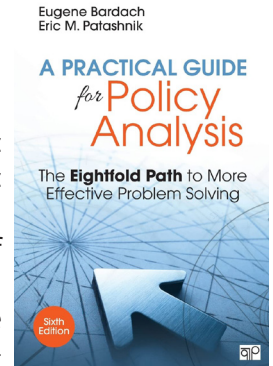


## BOOK REVIEW

### Public Policy: Politics, Analysis and Alternatives by Scott R. Furlong and Michael E. Kraft

A Practical Guide for Policy Analysis: The Eightfold Path to More Effective Problem Solving, is an essential resource for anyone interested in the field of policy analysis. This 6th edition offers a comprehensive and practical approach to policy analysis. The authors Eugene S. Bardach and Eric M. Patashnik, provide a step-by-step guide to the eightfold path of policy analysis, a systematic framework for understanding and addressing policy problems. This approach is grounded in real-world experience and draws on the latest research in the field. The book covers each stage of the eightfold path in detail, including defining the problem, gathering information, formulating alternative solutions, and making recommendations. The authors also provide helpful case studies and exercises to illustrate key concepts and to help students apply their learning to real-world policy problems.

One of the strengths of this book is its emphasis on the importance of interdisciplinary thinking in policy analysis. Another standout feature of the book is the way authors provide practical guidance on how to approach ethical dilemmas that arise during the policy analysis process and highlight the importance of transparency and accountability in policy decision-making. In conclusion, A Practical Guide for Policy Analysis: The Eightfold Path to More Effective Problem Solving is an outstanding resource for students, practitioners, and policymakers alike.



### Epilogue

It's a matter of satisfaction that the third issue of 'Governance & Society', the quarterly newsletter of School of Governance and Society, UMT, has been published. We feel proud that SGS has continued to demonstrate its commitment to excellence in research, teaching, and community engagement. Our faculty members have provided valuable insights to policymakers and the public through international conferences, roundtable conferences, media appearances and public lectures. Our students have engaged in internships, research projects, and community service activities that have allowed them to apply their classroom learning to real-world challenges. As we look to the future, we remain committed to advancing the field of public policy and preparing the next generation of policy leaders. The messages from the Governor Punjab, Mr. Muhammad Baligh Ur Rehman, care-taker provincial minister, Barrister Syed Azfar Ali and the Director General, UMT, Abid Sherwani will encourage the faculty and the students of SGS to work more diligently to impart and gain knowledge of public policy and public administration. SGS has already stepped up its academic and research activities, making it more relevant to the government and the policy makers. The newsletter 'G&S' has adequately mirrored the activities as well as the thoughts of the students and faculty for the period under review. We look forward to the continued growth and success of our department and the newsletter in the years to come.

With best regards

**Prof. Naveed Elahi**

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