“A successful man is one who can lay a firm foundation with the bricks others have thrown at him.” - David Brinkley

CONTENTS

03-11 HIGHLIGHTS
12-19 UPDATES FROM SCHOOLS
20-22 CO-CURRICULARS CORNER
23-26 SPORTS
27-29 ACHIEVEMENTS

Editorial Team

Editor:
Maryam Khalid
Assistant Editor:
Faheem Khaliqdad
Graphics & Layout:
Kareem Muhammad
Photography:
Ghulam Rasool

Student Reporters:
Taimoor Ahmad, Anum Yousaf Khan, Muhammad Yahya

NUSTNEWS is a monthly publication, produced by Student Affairs Directorate, covering various events across the entire University. It will be appreciated if the focal persons send reports right after the events so as to give them timely coverage.
Naval Engineering Conference was held on December 5 at Pakistan Navy Engineering College (PNEC) in an immaculate manner where six papers were presented in plenary session and remaining in the technical sessions. Vice Admiral Asaf Hummayun HI (M) was chief guest for the first session. For the second and third sessions, Vice Admiral Khan Hasham Bin Siddique HI (M), Commander Pakistan Fleet and Rear Admiral Imdad Imam Jaffri SI (M), Deputy Chief of Naval Staff (M), ex-Commandant were the chief guests respectively.

Dr Muzaffar Mahmood, Pro Vice Chancellor of NED University presented paper on Statistical Application in Engineering Design and Maintenance which elaborated that maintenance of equipment and machinery is a big challenge after installation of the plants. This paper addressed examples of some statistical applications covering probabilistic design, design of experiments and maintenance practices.

Second paper was read by Dr Anees-ur-Rehman on “Reliability Centered Maintenance (RCM).” He said RCM could be considered as a combination of conventional maintenance regimes i.e Run-to-Failure, Preventive, Predictive and Proactive maintenance strategies which are optimally combined while focusing on the asset reliability. Difference between “Conventional Maintenance” and “Reliability Centered Maintenance” was also clarified. RCM objectives and a case study on RCM were discussed briefly to emphasize the working principles of RCM.

Third paper on “Evaluation of Ultimate Buckling Strength; Ultimate strength of stiffened plates for Marine Structure” was presented by Dr Kaim Altaf who said compression is evaluated by nonlinear numerical analysis technique using effects of non-dimensional geometric parameters, material characteristics and fabrication induced imperfections. Papers were also presented by Shakil Ahmed, Professor Dr Nasim and Dr Sajid Mirza.
MoU between ICRC and CIPS

An MoU was signed between ICRC and Centre for International Peace & Stability (CIPS) on December 13 regarding education and training of United Nations peacekeepers.

CAC, CPBC strike strategic alliance

Samir Dossal, President of Canada-Pakistan Business Council (CPBC) visited NUST and met the senior members of Corporate Advisory Council (CAC), Global Think Tank Network (GTTN) and Advisor’s Office. They also held a meeting with the Rector NUST, Engr. Muhammad Asghar, Professor Emeritus, NUST Dr. M. Akram Sheikh and Advisor NUST / Secretary General CAC, Amer Hashmi. The purpose of this visit was to enhance collaboration between NUST and CPBC through exploring new avenues. The CPBC is a non-profit Canadian organization involved in promoting trade between Canada and Pakistan for the last 30 years. During Mr. Dossal’s visit to NUST, it was agreed that NUST and CPBC would broaden the scope of their cooperation, and work together in several areas, including development of a prestigious merit-based scholarship of the stature of the Rhodes scholarship for the brightest NUST students, as well as need-based scholarships for deserving students. Enhancing collaboration with Canada-based companies from the platform of the Corporate Advisory Council, and encouraging them to invest in R&D in Pakistan was also a subject under discussion. The delegates discussed mobilizing the broad base of expatriates in Canada to benefit Pakistan, in terms of human resource development (inviting successful and talented Pakistanis living in Canada to NUST for teaching / research assignments, conducting professional courses and guest lectures at NUST, etc.) as well as leveraging their influence to encourage investment in R&D and other initiatives in Pakistan. Furthermore establishment of collaborations between NUST GTTN and similar institutions (think tanks, academic / intellectual bodies) working in Canada was also highlighted. The parties decided on establishing greater collaboration for NUST’s NSTP program as well. Since the last visit of President CPBC to NUST, NUST had established the GTTN to undertake policy-based research and policy advocacy. Also, NUST’s flagship program of the National Science & Technology Park (NSTP) has made progress, and is currently at the Feasibility stage, after being approved by the NUST Board of Governors (BoG). The CAC has also matured as NUST’s Industry-Academia linkages platform, and is working closely with the Pakistani business and industrial concerns. Mr. Samir Dossal was given detailed presentations on the NUST Knowledge Ecosystem by Director CAC, Ms. Rabia Shoail, Mr. Ali Shah, Senior Research & Policy Analyst GTTN and Ms. Faiza Malik, Project Manager Advisor’s Office.
Sustainable Energy and Membrane Systems for Desalination and Water Reuse Int’l Workshop

A two day international workshop titled “Sustainable Energy and Membrane Systems for Desalination and Water Reuse” was organized by Institute of Environmental Sciences and Technology (IESE), SCEE from December 10 to 11 at NIT Auditorium, SCEE, H-12. The purpose of the international workshop was to address the water pollution and water scarcity issues of Pakistan by reclaiming wastewater, to provide sustainable energy systems for water treatment and desalination and to discuss low cost decentralized systems for groundwater desalination. The aim of the workshop was to provide researchers, engineers, policy-makers, industry professionals and student with in-depth knowledge of renewable energy and membrane based technologies for water reclamation and desalination systems.

HEC Pakistan, British Council, WaterAid and Oxfam collaborated with NUST in this regard. Keynote speakers for the workshop included Dr. Nick Hankins, Lecturer at University of Oxford UK, Dr. Philip Davies, Associate Dean for Research Aston University UK, Dr. Graeme Pearce, Director of Membrane Consultancy Associates Ltd. UK, Prof. Roger Ben Aim, Scientific Advisor at Institute for Filtration & Liquid Solid Separation France, Prof. Chung Hak Lee from Seoul National University, Dr. Sher Jamal Khan, Pakistani Team leader and Associate Professor at NUST, Dr. Zahiruddin Khan, Dr. Yousuf Jamal, Dr. Faheem Khokhar and Dr. Hussnain Janjua from NUST.

Workshop topics covered over the course of two days were ‘Sustainable energy systems for sea-water desalination,’ ‘Forward osmosis systems for desalination and water reuse,’ ‘Biofuels – a bridge between present challenges and future developments,’ ‘Membrane technology for industrial effluent treatment and water reuse’ and ‘Cost effective hybrid solar water heater – renewable energy applications.’

The workshop was graced by Pro-Rector Academics Dr. Asif Raza, Principal SCEE Dr. Tariq Mahmood, Associate Deans of IESE and NICE as well as faculty members and students.

Turkish Educationists visit NUST

A delegation of Turkish Educationists led by Mr. Ali Surmen, Rector Bursa Technical University, Turkey visited NUST on December 5. Upon arrival, the delegation met with Pro-Rector (Academics) NUST, Dr. Asif Raza and discussed the matters of mutual interest. The delegation was briefed about establishment, institutions, programs and future plans of NUST. The delegation also visited School of Electrical Engineering & Computer Science (SEECS) and School of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering (SMMME) where they were conducted to various state-of-the-art labs. Rector Ali Surmen appreciated NUST’s infrastructure and facilities provided for its faculty and students to ensure quality teaching, learning and research. He expressed his strong desire to establish collaboration between NUST and Bursa Technical University in the areas of joint research, fellowships and exchange of faculty and students.
Harvard Kennedy School Delegation visits CES-NUST

A high-level delegation comprising Dr. Afreen Siddiqi of the Harvard Kennedy School, Science, Technology and Public Policy Program as well as MIT Engineering Systems Division accompanied by Professor Sherman Robinson and Dr. Claudia Ringler, Deputy Division Director and Mr. Arthur Gueneau, Senior Research Assistant Development Strategy and Governance Division, International Food Policy Research Institute (a member of the CGIAR Consortium) Washington DC USA visited CES-NUST on December 3, 2013. Discussions on research in relation to policy and planning of energy and water systems in Pakistan and other developing countries were held. The delegation expressed keen interest in exploring possibilities for IFPRI and CES-NUST to collaborate as part of their Pakistan Strategy Support Program (PSSP). The collaboration will develop deeper understanding of the growing inter-connections among three critical resources: Energy, Water and Food. The work will focus on Pakistan’s Indus Basin, where irrigation water is increasingly pumped from underground, a practice that is intensifying a pre-existing shortage of energy. Using new and existing data plus statistical models, the research will clarify how much pumping is going on, how it is affecting energy use and food productivity, and where and why it is happening in this region – home of the world’s largest contiguous network of river-fed irrigation canals. A dynamic model under development will enable decision makers to assess the long-term impacts on energy, water and food of proposed infrastructure and policy initiatives, taking into account the possible long-term impacts of climate change on water management. In response, Dr. Afreen Siddiqi remarked “Given the interesting discussion on biofuel today, I am greatly interested in examining the impact and feasibility of bio-fuels production at a large-scale in Pakistan from an integrated water, energy production, and economic returns perspective. We could consider evaluating different scenarios of bio-fuels production, one that models the government policy mandate of using 10% bio-fuels by 2025, and the other could examine CES-NUST proposal of growing energy crops on each farm at a small scale”.

NUST hosts Pakistan Mountain Festival

NUST hosted the 3rd Pakistan Mountain Festival organized by Development Communications Network (DEVCOM) and SEED-EvK2CNR from December 9 to 12. This festival was held to celebrate International Mountain Day, which is officially observed on 11th December worldwide. The objective of this festival was to highlight this year’s mountain day theme: ‘Mountains are a key to sustainable future.’ Documentaries and Presentation sessions, facilitated by experts from Pakistan and Italy, focused on mountain ecosystem degradation, bio diversity in mountains of Pakistan and how protection of mountains will lead the world towards sustainable economic growth. A total of 150 participants gathered at this festival representing their respective organizations.

“Glaciers are living beings just like humans and I would encourage the young generation to visit the mountain glaciers and experience the life and nature over there,” said Ashraf Aman, the chief guest and Pakistan’s first K-2 climber. Mr. Ashraf Aman also holds the honor of receiving the “Presidential Award for Pride of Performance” for being the first Pakistani to climb K2. Activities like live painting competition, craft exhibition and live music performance were held which further reinforced this year’s mountain day theme. Mr Raffeale Del Cima, Country Operations Manager and Project Director SEED, advocated that more of these events should be organized which would provide a platform for future alliance between Pakistan and Italy towards sustainable management of mountains. The audience actively interacted with the presenters and generated interesting discussion on how mountain ecosystems could be better managed in Pakistan through international collaboration, involving stakeholders and raising more awareness.
Alumni reunion at NUST Homecoming

The first central NUST Alumni Homecoming was held at the H-12 campus on December 28. The festive evening was organized by NUST Alumni Association in collaboration with Mobilink Telecom Ltd. Alumni from all constituent campuses of NUST around the country gathered to recall the delightful companionships they had acquired in their university life. The event commenced with a meet-and-greet session, which gave an opportunity for interaction between students, alumni and faculty. This was followed by launch of the official ceremony.

The founding rector of NUST, Lieutenant General (R) Shujaat Hussain gave a reflective speech about the modest values that preserve the essence of an honest living. “Stay positive to life,” was his humble message to the alumni at various stages in their lives.

Rector NUST, Engr Muhammad Asghar commended organizations including Higher Education Commission (HEC), Ministry of Science and Technology (MoST) and the Armed Forces for their continued support to NUST. Addressing the gathering, he lauded how NUST had evolved from an institute excelling in Science & Technology to a comprehensive university which prides in diversity of its academic profile and students.

The Alumni Homecoming became the focal point for alumni associations of different departments to unite in their efforts to give back to their mother institution, NUST. Presidents of Alumni Associations at MCS, EME, AMC, SCME and SEECS addressed the alumni gathering about how each organization was working on different projects to benefit students by activities such as professional counseling, fund-raising for scholarships, research projects and procuring sponsorships to support extra- and curriculum activities. The perfect end to a memorable night followed the formal dinner as the Pakistani Rock band ‘Noori’ took the stage and entertained the audience.
Allama Iqbal Photo-essay Competition II

Admirable are the nations who do not forget their heroes and pay tribute to them from time to time. NUST Bazm-e-Pakistan arranged a sequel of online photo essay contest to honor the great poet, Allama Muhammad Iqbal on his 136th birthday. It was a perfect opportunity for the poetic souls who have a knack for photography. This competition was organized with the aim of reviving Iqbal’s poetry which is so powerful and universal, as it glows and overpowers the darkness and acts as the beacon of hope this nation has always been in need of. The topic of the competition was ‘Iqbal ka Pakistan’ and students from all the Schools of NUST participated in the competition. The contestants were asked to caption the photos by choosing the right words in accordance with different pieces of Iqbal’s poetry. Topics like ‘Momin ka woh andaz-e-bakamal kho gaya,’ ‘apni millat per qayas aqwam-e-maghib se na kar,’ ‘Qalb mai soz nahin, rooh mein ehsas nahin’ stimulated the young minds of writers and the skillful eyes of the photographers. Twenty two teams participated and their work was uploaded on the official page of NBPK. Cash prizes worth Rs. 5000, 3000 and 2000 were given to the winners.

Buraq management team and cadets visit NUST

Buraq Planetry Society and Management Team accompanied by 40 cadets visited SMME, NUST on December 27. The research facilities and labs were shown to the cadets and were briefed by the faculty. The visitors were fascinated to see top-of-the-line equipment, projects and practices being carried out in SMME. The faculty also informed the team about the infrastructure, academics and various other extension projects at SMME.

C³A faculty, students visit Curriculum and Textbook Wing

The faculty and MS students of Center for Counseling and Career Advisory visited Curriculum and Textbook Wing, Islamabad on December 10. The purpose of the visit was to understand their progress in the area of career related curriculum. The meeting was held with the Joint Education Advisor who comprehensively shared the impacts of devolution and history of curriculum with the visiting students. He said that after the 18th amendment, provinces have their own autonomy over education policy. Punjab has its curriculum authority and some work has already started in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and other provinces in curriculum development. The Advisor explained in detail the whole setup of curriculum development. He mentioned that during curriculum development, different committees are designed which comprise subject specialists, curriculum experts and experts from psychology department in order to seek their valuable expertise in curriculum development. He further said that the scheme of studies is made by looking at the need of the society and at present 82 subjects are included in the scheme of studies. Guiding and Counseling Education is introduced as a subject to teachers in B.Ed and M.Ed. Students raised questions with reference to the life-skills education. In response to the queries, he shared that allied materials are taken into account to give education to students on life-skills. The Advisor shared some valuable suggestions with the students on career education. He also said that assessment of what is being taught will now be curriculum based rather than textbook based. Furthermore, Guidance and Counseling Department is to be established in every school and he also suggested that there was a need of a comparative study on career education; with reference to what other countries are doing in this area.
Continuing Professional Development Course -SCEE

NUST Institute of Civil Engineering (NICE), SCEE in collaboration with Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC) organized a Continuing Professional Development (CPD) activity for the registered and professional engineers at Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC) Headquarters on November 6. The title of the talks was ‘Self-compacting Concrete – A modern technology.’ As many as 100 engineers attended the Course. Resource persons for the occasion were Dr. Thomas A Bier, TU Freiberg Germany and Dr. Syed Ali Rizwan, HoD Structural Engineering Department, NICE.

Mr. Rizwan started his talk by defining self-compacting concrete and its applications. He said that now NICE, SCEE has the capacity to provide expertise to the end users in Pakistan who are desirous to use SCC in the infra-structural applications. He was of the opinion that now SCC can be successfully applied in Pakistan provided the consulting engineers /architects specify it on the drawings where the characteristics are mentioned. He also discussed the basic steps involved in the design of SCC and explained the role of both chemical and local mineral admixtures and role of ‘ITZ’. He addressed the basic questions of calculating the water demand of SCC and the desirable amount of chemical admixtures. He also explained the grafting mechanism of super-plasticizers on cement grains.

NBIOS High School Outreach Programme

NUST BioReach Society (NBIOS) organised a High School Outreach program in collaboration with Pak-US Alumni Network (PUAN), at the Atta-ur-Rahman School of Applied Biosciences (ASAB), NUST Islamabad from November 30 to December 1. The competition invited 40 curious young minds from various schools and colleges of Islamabad and Rawalpindi region. The two-day program was exclusively held to train young thinkers to learn scientific investigation tools. The volunteer team from ASAB consisted of mentors from amongst the senior students and faculty members who gave lectures and laboratory demonstrations on molecular biology and microbiology. After the introductory lectures, the participants were given the chance to implement the learnt facts, as they were given demonstrations on bacterial cell culturing, antibiotic activity screening, DNA extraction and gel electrophoresis. The two-day outreach programme ended with a certificate distribution ceremony for the participants, mentors and teachers. The chief guest, Director Student Affairs NUST, Mr. Mahmud Bajwa and the Principal ASAB, Dr. Peter John marked this session as a service to the community and to the country and applauded the brilliance of NBIOS organizing body.

NUST Entry Tests

NUST has started to conduct three series of Entry Tests for undergraduate admissions with first series of the test conducted from 21st Dec 2013 to 2nd Jan 2014. The basic objective of conducting Entry Tests thrice in an admission cycle was to give opportunity to UG candidates to appear in test more than once if they desire to do so and thus improve prospects of their selection. The response of candidates was overwhelming to say the least.
NVivo Software Training at PDC - NILE

Professional Development Center (PDC), a constituent of NILE, organized a training for NVivo software’s application for qualitative data analysis on December 13. The welcome note was delivered by Principal NILE, Dr. Qaiser Hameed who expressed his hope of deriving positive learning through the workshop. Participants from many organizations, NGOs and even within NUST attended the training. The resource person was a certified NVivo software trainer who had worked extensively on research projects involving qualitative data analysis. The workshop started with the resource person highlighting the eminence of qualitative research, differentiating it from quantitative research. The basic data collection methods covered as a part of this training were observations, focus groups, document reviews, interviews, blogs, images, emails and diaries. Because of the fact that the qualitative researchers aim to gather an in-depth understanding of human behavior and the reasons that govern such behavior, special emphasis was placed on conducting focus groups. FGs are important in determining perceptions, opinions, beliefs, and attitudes towards a product, service, concept, advertisement, idea, or packaging. In this way through interactive exercises, hands-on software practice and action research, the participants studied NVivo’s application for social sciences studies as well as marketing strategies. It covered aspects of data analysis using powerful search, query and visualization tools. As the sessions progressed, more technical aspects such as transcription of video/audio recordings and data analysis as well as more creative tools such as word clouds, word tree maps and the ‘nodes’ methods were studied. Finally certificates were awarded to all attendants by Principal NILE.

Workshop on Mastering the Art of Personal Selling

Professional Development Center (PDC) a constituent of NILE, organized a two-day workshop from December 16 to 17. The workshop invited Business development managers, sales executives, tele-marketers and sales agents who wished to improve marketing strategies on a personal or organizational level. Principal NILE, Dr. Qaiser Hameed, gave the opening remarks where he mentioned how marketing and creating brands had become essential to any organization or individual in the modern times. Different modes of training were adopted including interactive group exercises, role playing, case studies and video exercises. Important factors covered were behavioral, both of the sales person and customers. Sales presentations are a very important phase of marketing a product and were particularly focused on. Through practical demonstrations, the participants were given tips on handling objection using tools such as LAPA-CT. Role-Playing allowed the potential sales-persons to identify customer’s implicit/explicit needs and sharpen customer centric selling. The final step in securing a deal is to close a sale, and this aspect was also covered in exercises. The resource person closed the session with his tips for successful selling and the follow-up process after a sales deal. The step-by-step procedures involved allowed audience to study marketing in an interactive and methodical form. The workshop ended with a certificate distribution ceremony by Principal NILE.

Visit of Professor Gerard Goma & Chaouki Boutharouite to ASAB

Chaouki Boutharouite, Education Attaché, Embassy of France, Pakistan & Prof. Gerard Goma, visited Atta-ur-Rahman School of Applied Biosciences (ASAB). Principal ASAB, Dr. Peter John briefed the visitors about the ongoing academic & research activities at ASAB. Prof. Goma delivered a lecture focused on how Industrial Microbiology needs to integrate modern and conventional biology to develop bio-products and bio-processes. Both faculty & PG students attended this lecture. Later in a meeting faculty shared the on-going research projects at the department. Mr. Chaouki Boutharouite shared information regarding Post Doctoral & PhD scholarships & Research Grants offered by French government in Pakistan. As a part of their visit they conducted visits to laboratories to view research facilities and state-of-the art equipment available at ASAB.
NCSC launches student fee fund

According to a survey conducted in NUST, 72 percent of the students studying in the university have difficulty paying their university fee. In a university in which more than 25 percent of the students have a net household income of less than 20,000 rupees, NUST Community Service Club (NCSC) has taken an initiative by setting up NCSC student fee fund; one student in each semester will be given financial assistance to pay his/her fee. This will be a Karz-e-Hasna which the student will have to return but without any time limit. Each school will be given a chance to nominate a student. In order to generate funds, weekly movie nights have been arranged, and the money generated from the NCSC membership drive has also been donated to the fund. Eighty thousand rupees have been generated so far, and will be used to pay the fee of a student in the upcoming semester.

Nustians inspire world at HAMMUN-Germany

In the month of December, a delegation comprising five students from National University of Sciences and Technology took part in a simulation of the United Nations in Hamburg, Germany. The delegation consisted of four students from NUST Business School and School of Social Sciences and Humanities, and one from NUST Institute of Civil Engineering. HAMMUN/ Hamburg Model United Nations is one of the largest and oldest UN conferences in Europe, which started operating in 1998. This time around, the students were selected on a merit-based trial held at the beginning of the year. In the conference, there were a total of 13 simulated committees listing over 600 delegates from all around the world, including USA, Europe, Asia and the Far East. The conference was scheduled from 4th to 8th December-2013.

NUST delegates rose to the occasion and won 3 awards. The award recipients included Hira Nisar Khan (Best Delegate Award in UN Security Council- Crisis), Abdullah Khan (Best Delegate Award in UN General Assembly), and Ali Tahir (Best Delegate Award in UN Global Compact).

Moreover, Maedia Babar Chishti from BBA, NBS and Usama Mazhar from Civil Engineering, NICE were lauded for their performances in NATO and UN Global Compact respectively.

In his message, Rector NUST Engr Muhammad Asghar has appreciated the winning delegates for their remarkable achievement.
CSP-SEECS organizes Workshop on Learn & Teach Robotics

The Computer Society of Pakistan – SEECS Chapter organized a two-day workshop on Robotics. The mentor of the workshop was Dr. Sohail Iqbal, faculty from Department of Computing at SEECS. The workshop was aimed at creating an interest among the students for programming and to help them understand the practical implementation of Programming. LEGO Mindstorms nxt 2.0 Kits were used for making Robots.

The first day covered the basic tutorial of LEGO Mindstorms and Robotics. Dr. Sohail Iqbal gave his introductory lecture on Robotics and explained how to use the LEGO kit. The students had an interactive session with Dr. Sohail Iqbal. Later on, the kits were given to the participating teams. Each Team was named differently like Nascent Droids, Team Infused, R2D2 and many others. In the meantime the CSP Volunteers helped the students whenever they were facing any sorts of difficulty. The next day started with much excitement as participants were looking to compete with each other. Teams got busy in developing algorithms and implementing them on their robots. The competition was held in three categories: Line Tracking – whereby Robot was supposed to follow a specified track, Speed Racing – Head to Head Racing among robots and Sumo Wrestling – Head to Head Wrestling competition for Robots. The most difficult of all was the line tracking competition. The aim was not just to follow the line but to do it faster than others.

Dr. Kashif Rajpoot, who was the chief guest for the second day and Dr. Sohail Iqbal had an interactive session with students and asked questions. Later, certificates were distributed among the winners.

NCSC students attend Social Entrepreneurship Workshop

Students from NUST Community Service Club (NCSC) attended ‘Successful Social Entrepreneurship- Heart and Head together’ training workshop organized by ‘Dostiyan’ on December 12. The workshop discussed the various aspects of entrepreneurship, understanding the difference between entrepreneurship and social entrepreneurship, the challenges faced during the development and startup of a project and ways to overcome them. A number of motivational and experienced speakers including Dr. Zeeshan Usmani were invited who shared their experiences and observations from the industry. The workshop also consisted of an interactive session in which students were asked to rate themselves into low, medium and high risk takers and divided into groups. The groups were then given activities related to designing an organization for social welfare. Based on the ability to take the number of risks, the tasks were allotted which included draft making, plan presentation and money collection. The output from the activity was then used to demonstrate the weaknesses, strengths, and problems faced by an entrepreneur.
NUST Science Society (NSS) organized a SAP Training Workshop at the School of Chemical and Materials Engineering (SCME), NUST on December 14 to 15 invited students from all over NUST. The event was coordinated by NSS executive Danish Pirzada and the resource person was Engineer Mohammad Bilal, a Civil Engineer who brought diverse experience in construction, measurement engineering, quality analysis and site engineering from various multi nationals. The main focus of the workshop was to introduce students to SAP 2000(Structural Analysis Program), a programme which is a popular tool today, serving Architects, Civil, Mechanical and Design Engineers by testing the strength and durability of the structures that they conceive. Virtual models of the structure were constructed in the programme and then virtual earthquakes, tidal waves, high winds, etc were generated to test whether the structure could stand against them or fall over. The workshop was sealed with a certificate distribution ceremony for participants and a shield was presented to the trainer.

Edvolution NCSC team holds Diya Jalaye Rakhna Hai

A seminar “Diya Jalaye Rakhna hai” was arranged by the joint efforts of Edvolution Karachi and NUST Community Service Club (NCSC) at SMME, NUST on December 12. The main aim of the seminar was to evoke the importance of education and to shed light on the activities by Edvolution and NCSC team in order to boost the morale of students for noble deeds. Three guests, Dr. Hassan Orooj; Director General of Directorate Health Services (DHS) in Capital Development Authority (CDA), Mr. Ahmed Qureshi; Chairperson of National Peace Committee for interfaith harmony (NPCIH) and Mr. Abdul Haq Mohiuddin; Founder of Edvolution were invited ON THE OCCASION. Mr Zafer Iqbal; Director Student affairs of SMME, graced the event as well. Faculty and students from Hamdard University Islamabad, UET, Taxila, COMSATS Institute of Information Technology and International Islamic University Islamabad also attended the event. The esteemed guests highly appreciated the seminar as well as the cause and a handsome donation was also made by our worthy guests. Dr. Hassan Orooj also extended his support to the Edvolution team for joint future ventures.

Students of Roots International School visit SMME

The students of Roots International School visited SMME on December 19. During visit they were briefed about the labs and research facilities at SMME. The students were apprised of all the dimensions of Mechanical Engineering, its role in industries and its facets in the job market. The primary objective of the visit was to motivate the students for carrying further studies at NUST.
NIPCONS organizes seminar on HIV/AIDS

A seminar regarding HIV/AIDS took place on December 17 at the NUST Business School. It was organised by the NUST Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies. The speakers included Ms. Anne Bergenstorm, a research psychologist from United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and Dr. Muhammad Saleem, UNAIDS strategic advisor. Dr. Rajwal, Senior Program Coordinator of National AIDS Control Program (NACP) was also present at the occasion.

Ms. Anne Bergenstorm started by discussing the HIV epidemic among people who inject drugs. She highlighted that although some of the countries in Asia have a stable rate of HIV infections, however, a few countries still face a higher number of infections. She pointed out how the United Nations Office of Drugs and Crimes (UNODC) has a mandate on working with the government in order to reduce the spread of HIV in normal conditions and also in prison settings. Further, she talked about a public health approach required to reduce the HIV transmission, which included Needle Syringe Programs, OST and other evidence-based drug dependence treatment and Antiretroviral Therapy (ART) for people with HIV.

The next speaker, Dr. Muhammad Saleem briefed the audience about the global, regional and national HIV complications. He identified Sub Saharan Africa as the worst HIV affected area. Primary route of AIDS infection in Eastern Europe and Asia was said to be injection of drugs. Along with this, Dr. Muhammad Saleem explained the situation of HIV in Pakistan, highlighting 87,000 people as infected. An increasing trend of HIV spread was shown, highest numbers being in Karachi, Faisalabad, Gujrat and DG Khan. An interactive Question-Answers session was held at the end, with active participation from both the audience and the speakers.

Training Courses at CIPS

Three courses of two weeks duration were conducted at Centre for International Peace & Stability (CIPS) from December 02 to 28. First training course “UN Peacekeeping Train the Trainer Course-2” started on December 2 for 30 participants. Courses on “UN Peacekeeping Unit Commanders Course-2” and “UN Peacekeeping Logistics Officers” with 6 and 4 participants were conducted on December 16 through December 28. A number of subject specialists delivered talks on the various facets of peacekeeping including Lt Gen (R) Sikandar Afzal and Maj Gen (R) Athar Abbas. On December 13 and December 28, after successful completion of the courses certificates were distributed among the participants.

Director QA NUST conducts workshop at SMBBMU

Engr Muhammad Ismail, Director Quality Assurance NUST, visited Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto Medical University (SMBBMU), Larkana as a resource person for conducting a workshop on Quality Assurance on November 26.

The seminar aimed to broaden the experience of the key staff and teaching faculty at SMBBMU about various of Quality Assurance Framework. Acting Chancellor SMBBMU, Dr Asadullah Mahar welcomed the resource person while Director QEC SMBBMU, Dr Abdul Manan Bhutto highlighted the progress of QEC at SMBBMU and introduced the guest speaker. Afterwards, Engr Muhammad Ismail through his presentation underlined the importance of Quality Assurance in Higher Education and the ways a QEC can play a vital role to assure high quality of educational provisions in the University to satisfy the stakeholders. He also deliberated on Self-Assessment Report Writing, in detail, terms of its appropriateness, completeness and comprehensiveness. The workshop was attended by the SMBBMU acting Vice Chancellor, Deans of Faculties, Heads of Departments, teaching faculty and local QEC officials.
Jarnagin speaks at ASHRAE Orientation Session - SMME

Ronald E. Jarnagin, ex-President of American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers, attended the orientation session of ASHRAE NUST Chapter held in the seminar hall of SMME.

Mr. Jarnagin has been involved in energy-related research and development activities for over 35 years. His background is diverse, including work in the areas of fluid flow, power plants, automotive and transportation systems, HVAC systems, energy use in buildings, smart grid activities and energy standards development. He was accompanied by Mr. Naseer Ahmed, Mr. Muhammad Riaz Baig, and Mr. Ather N. Siddiquie, who are the President, General Secretary, and Student Activities Chair of ASHRAE Northern Pakistan Chapter respectively.

Mr. Jarnagin talked to the students about the society and the importance of its membership to mechanical engineers. Being an ex-president himself, Mr. Jarnagin gave many useful insights on what is really expected from undergraduate students. His extremely witty yet thought-provoking lecture was well received by both the students and the faculty. In the end he acknowledged the efforts put in by SMME in establishing a chapter of ASHRAE in NUST. An interesting question and answer session marked the end of the session.

ASME-SMME Chapter holds Professional Development Workshop

ASME-SMME student chapter held a curriculum vitae (CV) writing workshop in December. Free registration and exceptional CV making tips were given to those who attended this interactive session. The instructor was a man with extraordinary achievements, Assistant manager Mobicash, Shazil Pervaiz. A gold medalist and a graduate from NBS, Mr. Pervaiz is one of the founding members of AISEC Islamabad. He was also the president NUST Dramatics and Debating society for two consecutive terms. He joined Mobilink as Assistant Product Manager at Mobicash and was one of the key members of the team which was responsible for launching the service in Pakistan. In the interactive workshop, Mr. Shazil discussed methods for achieving success in CV making, interviews and other candidate recruitment tasks with the students.

Dr Khursheed Khan visits SMME

Dr. Khursheed Khan, from University of Bradford, visited SMME on December 17. Professor Khurshid Khan studied from the University of Bradford. His PhD area of research was experimental and theoretical study of air turbulence. During 1987 to 1990, he worked for Pepsi-Cola International as a Technical Services Manager in the Middle East, Far East and Africa Regions. In 1990, he joined the School of Engineering, Design & Technology, University of Bradford, where he is currently a Professor in Manufacturing Systems Engineering. Dr. Khursheed, accompanied by Vice principal SMME, Engr. M. Sohail and HOD Manufacturing, Dr. Liaquat, visited all the labs and the new building of SMME. He was briefed on the research work and various projects that are underway at the school.
SADA Talent Hunt 2

With the students still caught up in the excitement of the first segment of the talent show, the second edition of the SADA talent show took place in December. While some previous candidates had practiced and improved to showcase their talent for the second time, surprisingly, there were also a number of first timers participating this time around. From singers to actors, musicians to poets, live sketch artists to aspiring cooks, this event brought with it more excitement and enthusiasm.

The event started with a musical performance by Rizwan Bashir, which had the seniors reminiscing about their freshman year at SADA. This was followed by more participants exhibiting their talents, which were commended by the panel of judges including Ms. Nargis, Ms. Javeria Masood and Ms. Unam Babar, who acknowledged the efforts of students. Students from all four batches took part in the event; however it was the students from the first year who stole the show. Amongst all the participants, Shahzeb Khan, with his melodious vocals and Wahid Gushpur, with his beautiful instrumental on the rabab gave standout performances. Iqra and Rehma also brilliantly showcased their talent with a pencil during the live sketching round. The event ended with a pizza party where the participants mingled with the audience, swaying to the music playing in the background.

Blood Donation Camp at AM College

A blood donation camp was set up at Army Medical College by members of Amcolians Blood Donors Society (ABDS). The annual blood donation camp was attended in great numbers by officers, cadets and graduates who unanimously supported the society’s slogan ‘Bleed for Life’.

The donors gathered in the Ejaz hall well before time as they awaited the arrival of the chief guest, Mr. Mustafa Kamal Akbar. The zealous volunteers from MBBS and BDS batches vigilantly assisted the donors and ensured that the blood donation process went smoothly. A large number of volunteer donors amongst cadets showed up with newly graduated doctors and dentists whose contributions brought the blood stock to a surmounting figure of 95 pints. The camp highlighted the importance of blood donation, clarifying false myths related to it among the masses.
NSS launches anti-smoking campaign

A social awareness campaign with the slogan, ‘Anti-Smoking Guide for Dummies’ was launched by the NUST Science Society. The campaign developed a strong following on social media as they un-folded shocking scientific facts combined with some humour to stress on the threatening habit of smoking. This December the society members decided to take the campaign outside social media. A drive was conducted to distribute posters in different localities of Islamabad other than just the NUST H-12 Campus. Along with this a video shoot was conducted in Concordia 1 where volunteers spoke up for the cause. Banners and slogans were raised to gain attention as well. The video was released at the end of the anti-smoking campaign and uploaded on the society’s ‘facebook’ page.

Coca-Cola National Science Bee Competition

NUST Science Society held its annual Science Bee Competition in official partnership with Coca-Cola Beverages Pakistan Limited (CCBPL), at the School of Chemical and Materials Engineering (SCME) from December 21 to 22 at the NUST H-12 campus. The competition celebrated a year of science with students of diverse age groups and educational backgrounds and nationally. The event was a science based competition open to high school and university students from all around Pakistan, and was designed to challenge them on a theoretical and practical level. The chief guest was the legendary scientist, Dr. Noor Mohammad Butt, who initiated nanotechnology research in Pakistan.

The two-day event began with the teams being split into two, simultaneously competing in two parts of the event, the ‘Mind Voyage’ and ‘InnoVent’. ‘Mind Voyage’ consisted of a short written quiz, testing the participants’ knowledge of physics, chemistry, biology and their analytical skills; the second round was a model making competition in which the participants were given empty Coca Cola cans and bottles to construct models to impress the judges; and the third round had oral questions and a rapid fire. ‘InnoVent’ consisted of two rounds where participants presented innovative ideas on topics like water purification, counteracting pollution etc. Mensa IQ test was also conducted. Mensa is the oldest High IQ society in the world and if a high enough score is achieved in the test, an automatic MENSA membership is offered.

Social events included scavenger hunt named ‘Astro-Hunt’ and Astronomy Night where participants and students gathered at the school ground where telescopes had been set up to gaze at the ongoing meteor shower. The CDs were also distributed to lucky winners. Winning teams from NUST, RCI Millennium Campus, The City School and OPF Girls College took home cash prizes up to Rs 30,000 and trophies at the closing ceremony.
Lecture on Flood Risk Management in Lai Nullah

Dr. Qazi Tallat Mahmood Siddique, Deputy Adviser Engineering, Office of the Chief Engineering Adviser/Federal Flood Commission, Ministry of Water & Power, Islamabad delivered a lecture on ‘Flood Risk Management in Lai Nullah’ on December 13 at NUST Institute of Civil Engineering (NICE), SCEE. The lecture was attended by NICE faculty and UG 2011 students.

Dr. Qazi explained in detail the flood mechanism and inundation behavior in watershed of the Lai Stream. The Lai Stream Basin with an area of 235 km² is located in northern part of Pakistan. Lai is the main stream passing through Rawalpindi city with a flood damaging history of almost once in every three years. On 23rd July, 2001, the rainfall depth was recorded at 620 mm in 10 hours from 0600-1600 hours and tragically this flood has been the largest among recorded events claiming 74 human lives, affecting 400,000 people and inflicting a capital loss of USD 0.25 billion. Thorough data analysis was performed to select most suitable data for computer modeling by MIKE 11. The whole basin was divided into fifteen (15) sub-basins and their respective yields were generated and subsequently incorporated into river network of Lai Stream. Calibration was achieved successfully along the river profile with 2001 flood as target followed by the estimation of standard flood discharge for Lai stream. Dr. Qazi highlighted the salient features of the project of Flood Forecasting and Warning System for Lai Nullah Basin which has been provided by the Japan’s Grant Aid through Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), with the coordination of departments/Agencies such as Federal Flood Commission (FFC), Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD), Water & Sanitation Agency (WASA) (RDA), and Tehsil Municipal Administration (TMA) of Rawalpindi.

Lt Gen (R) Shahid Niaz delivers lectures at NICE

Lt Gen (R) Shahid Niaz delivered lectures to the students of NUST Institute of Civil Engineering (NICE), SCEE Batches 2011 and 2012 on the topics of planning and Implementation of civil engineering projects, on December 5 and 12. Mr. Shahid Niaz is a highly experienced professional civil engineer and had the appointments of a Director General Frontier Works Organization; Engineer in Chief Pakistan Army and the Member Planning Commission of Pakistan.

The first lecture was focused on identification, planning and the management of a development project. The speaker explained the process of identification of the need for the project. He related it to the projects of the government of Pakistan and its international partners to seek better standard of life for the citizens of Pakistan. He explained how relevant ministries identified the development projects and carried out the feasibility study and financial availability.

He said that an efficient management system was of paramount importance for effective implementation and therefore, during the lecture the major emphasis was laid on efficient management of the project. In order to achieve the stipulated targets and tangibles returns, it is imperative to entrust the management to capable and competent persons, he said.

Having discussed the requirements of good management, the speaker spoke about the efficient implementation of the planned project in his second lecture. It was highlighted that efficient implementation requires diligence and ability to identify and rectify the problems promptly. After having completed the project, it is pertinent to prepare the completion report and make necessary arrangements for its efficient operation. The students and faculty too great interest in the lectures.

SCME team represents NUST at LUMUNX

Lahore University of Management Sciences once again hosted the globally acclaimed Model United Nations Conference, LUMUNX, in December 2013. A NUST sponsored team from School of Chemical and Materials Engineering (SCME) participated in the conference. The team composed of Aamir Rashid, Ali Shujaat, Anum Yousuf Khan, Hassaan Nadeem, Maryam Adhami, Nadia Naseer and Syed Shouzab Raza. Hassaan, a sophomore at SCME achieved an Honorary mention as the delegate of Liberia at UNODC Committee. The team went through 9 grueling committee sessions with some of the best debaters in the country. Some of the highlights of LUMUNX included thought provoking sessions discussing topics such as the ‘Third Gender’ and ‘Global Zero.’ A Jazz-themed formal dinner and the much awaited ‘Noori’ Concert were the highlights of the evening. NUST’s administration was immensely supportive to provide its enthusiastic students with an opportunity for tremendous exposure.
NCSC membership drive

NUST Community Services Club (NCSC) conducted a general membership drive in H-12 campus in December for 3 weeks. It was conducted for the purpose of getting as many members involved in community work as possible and giving them a chance of serving their community. The general membership was of two categories; Free membership allowed the members to be notified for all the NCSC activities so they could participate while the Gold Membership, worth Rs. 100 benefits not only the members availing this membership but the financially challenged students of NUST also. The amount generated from gold membership will be reserved for the NUST Student Fee Fund, designed to help the financially challenged NUST students who are unable to pay their fees. Incentives for gold members include free entry to all movie nights conducted by NCSC and 10 percent discount at any outlet of Manolo Gelato.

It was the most successful drive conducted so far as NCSC became a community of 3000 members making it the largest student organization within NUST. An appreciation meeting was held at the end of the drive, which was attended by Director Student Affairs, Mr. Mahmood Bashir Bajwa, Principal SMME, Dr. Ghaffor and Faculty Sponsor NCSC, Dr. Irtiza, in which they appreciated the work done by the council members.

NLC organizes Humour Writing Competition

The NUST Literary Circle since its inception believed in promoting the art of writing amongst the study body of NUST. Following this objective, NLC organised its first twin city Humour Writing Competition. The society was certain that talent amongst the students of the twin cities was immense, and they were not disappointed. Numerous submission from various institutes in Rawalpindi and Islamabad as well from NUST were received. While short listing the winners, the judge and members of NLC were pleased with the quality of humor and the language used in some articles received. Zara Iqbal, Rabia and Maab Saleem from NUST were declared the winners of the competition. The judge was Saulat Pervez, a columnist, teacher and author of the book ‘Shades of Prey’. The NUST Literary Circle appreciated the dedication towards writing, displayed by the members of their own student body, as well as students from various other institutions who participated in this competition.

NICE faculty participates in workshop at Jakarta - Indonesia

UNESCO Office, Jakarta organized a two-day workshop in Jakarta, Indonesia on the topic ‘Strategic Meeting of Asia-Pacific IHP HELP and Eco-hydrology’. Dr Hamza of NUST Institute of Civil Engineering (NICE), SCEE participated in the meeting on December 2. The forum brought together experts with experience in different aspects of water resources management at international level and in the Asia and the Pacific region. Dr. Hamza Farooq Gabriel made a presentation on UNESCO sponsored project “Application of FILTER (Filtration and Irrigated cropping for Land Treatment and Effluent Reuse) Technology for Wastewater Treatment – Pilot Study at NUST Islamabad Campus” being carried out by NUST Institute of Civil Engineering (NICE), SCEE. One of the key findings of this workshop was the decision of establishing HELP and Eco-hydrology Programs for Asia-Pacific namely: AP-HELP and AP-Ecohydrology.

SLS organizes Crazy English Competition

The Student Literary Society organised the Crazy English Competition again this year. 22 teams registered for the competition. The event was held in RIMMS Seminar Hall. It had three rounds: Picture Story, Dumb Charades and Spelling Bee. In the Picture story, each team had to write a story based on or related to the picture being displayed by the projector. In the Dumb Charades, each team had to pick a chit and act out the proverb written on it for his/her teammates to guess and spelling bee was a spelling competition. The event started with displaying the picture. Teams were called on stage one by one for their respective turns at Spelling Bee and Dumb Charades and to say it was fun, would be an understatement. All the participants had crazy team names and brilliant acting skills. Some names were Team Team, Team F.R.I.E.N.D.S, The Three Musketeers, Desi Rockets, The French Toast Mafia etc. The winners of the competition received a cash prize of Rs 500.
Beach trip arranged for PNEC students

A leisurely trip was arranged for the students of Pakistan Navy Engineering College (PNEC), Karachi. A stay at PNS Himalaya Hut which is about 40 Km away from the campus was planned so that the students could get time out of their stringent routine in hostels. Students played different beach games like volleyball, cricket etc. and refreshments were served. At the end a group photograph was taken and students returned back to their campus by midnight.

Google Scavenger Hunt

Google Scavenger Hunt was organized on December 27 by the Google Student Ambassadors to motivate the students to get acquainted with different Google Products in a unique and fun way. Around 45 team registration requests were received, however only 22 teams could be entertained.

The Hunt consisted of 5 posts (SADA, IAEC, SEECS Café, SEECS Lobby, SEECS Fountain Area) and one main post (RIMMS Seminar Hall) from where the game started and ended. The students had to guess the locations of the posts that were hidden in different codes. Once they figured that out and reached the posts, there were team members from the Ambassadors’ team to hand over the task for that post to the participants. The tasks included Google Image Search to find out the name of different scientists through their images, making a new year video by translating ‘Happy New Year’ into different languages using Google Translation, taking a picture with the Android Logo and sharing it on their Google Plus profiles and finding out the location coordinates of SEECS Lobby using Google Maps. The first three teams to return to the main post after completing all tasks won. The prizes for the winning teams were Google Swag Bags for all participants of the team, which included Google shirts, sunnies, USBs, bottles, note pads, mugs, bookmarks, and pens etc. There were snacks for the participants as well.
NCSC Movie Nights

NUST Community Services Club decided to entertain the student body at NUST by organizing a special screening of the American Horror Movies Insidious 1 & 2 on December 26 and 31. It was an enjoyable experience seeing students from different schools taking a breather from their hectic routines.

On December 11, NCSC also screened RED 2 in SMME Auditorium, H-12 Campus. The movie night was attended by more than a hundred students, who enjoyed the action packed comedy movie. The money collected from these events were deposited in the student fee fund recently launched by the club to assist students fulfill their university fee requirements.

NUST Media Club’s Photo Walk to Ayubia

NUST Media Club has always tried its best to bring out the potential of budding photographers. A Photo walk to Ayubia was arranged on December 14. The enthusiasm of the students was evident when they reached at the allotted spot on time. Throughout the trekking, the photographers took pictures and captured the scenic beauty of the nature. It took almost two hours to complete the track after which the participants were taken to the open grounds of a rest house where a buffet lunch was arranged. After having lunch and tea, the buses set off for Mall road in Murree. There was a phenomenal response from all the participants which was also reflected in the photos from that day.

NICE welcomes its new batch

Freshmen of NUST Institute of Civil Engineering 2013 were given a warm welcome by their seniors on December 5. The host batch- es, dressed as Mafia, put a stupendous display for their juniors and made them feel at home in a unique way. Qawwali, songs and dance performances were an entertaining part of the evening. The play “Dolly ki aye gee Barat” was the highlight of the evening. A question-answer session was held by the cast of this play to clear any lingering doubts in the minds of the freshmen about the life at NICE. The melodious flute performance by Raja Mehran Khan was greatly loved and appreciated. NICE Alumni described their experiences at NICE and the challenges they went through.

Associate Dean NICE, Dr Liaqat Ali, gave a short welcome address to the new class and also appreciated the management team of NICE Extra-curricular Activities (ECA) Club for successfully hosting the event and making it memorable for the freshmen.
**Visit to Shah Bandar**

An educational trip was organized by Pakistan Navy Engineering College for the students of Semester VI on November 15 with an aim to encourage the students to take part in social activities in order to enhance communication, social and leadership skills. The students visited village Shah Bandar in district Thatta to witness and discuss the basic problems faced by the villagers and to resolve their issues by developmental projects. Students were also motivated to help the villagers in improving their standard of living. The students also short listed development of water filtration plant and replacement of bulb by LED to reduce energy consumption in the village and alleviate problems in the area.

---

**MCS participates in All Pakistan Bilingual Declamation Contest – PAF Academy**

PAF Academy Risalpur hosted All Pakistan Declaration Contest. The coveted contest was held from 21st to 23rd November 2013. The event was organized to display the exuberant spirit, vital knowledge and rhetoric talent of young students from all over the country. MCS took part in the event with its team comprising NC Shouzab Mukhtar (TE- 50) and NC Miqdad Askari (SE-18). Lt. Col Dr Muhammad Hanif, Head of Humanities and Basic Sciences Department, accompanied the participant to Risalpur. Audience enjoyed listening to best speakers from 32 academic institutions of Pakistan. MCS endeavors to continuously provide such opportunities for its students in future to learn and grow from experience.

---

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.” Nelson Mandela
IESE Sports Gala

Institute of Environmental Sciences and Technology (IESE) Sports Committee organized IESE Sports Gala from December 3 to 6 at NUST H-12 Campus. Mr. Fahim Khokhar, faculty head organized the event with support of IESE administration under the supervision of SCEE.

Four different houses were made and each house was led by its captain and a faculty supervisor. ‘Fire Birds’ was lead by Dr. Saud Ahmed Khan,‘Dust Devils’ by Dr. Fahim Khokhar, ‘Sky warriors’ by Dr. Imran Hashmi and ‘Sea Monsters’ by Dr Muhammad Arshad. Eight different games were played in the Gala including, Futsal, Chess, Table Tennis, Arm Wrestling, E-gaming, Cricket, Carom and tug Of War and they were played among these houses under different categories for both boys and girls.

The Gala began with an elegant opening ceremony chaired by Principal SCEE, Mr. Tariq Mehmood as the chief guest of the opening ceremony. The Futsal match was played between the two houses, where the ‘Sea Monsters’ won and qualified for the finals after beating the most senior batch. After the Futsal match carom, chess and e-gaming were played simultaneously. Day 2 was also colorful and full of energy. Although participants were the heart of the game but so were the spectators and this was displayed by the most enthusiastic crowd of IESE at the grounds. On day 3, Futsal final was played between ‘Fire Birds’ and ‘Sea Monsters’. Fire Birds came out victorious and won the finale. On day 4, two final matches were witnessed and events that grabbed everyone’s attention were table tennis’ singles and mixed doubles final. It was played against ‘Fire Birds’ and ‘Sea Monsters’, where ‘Sea Monsters’ who took away the prize. ‘Sky warriors’ won the Cricket Finale.

After all the events concluded, the scores were tabulated and the winning house was announced. With the highest score of 54 it was ‘Sea Monsters’ who took home the trophy. The closing ceremony took place on December 6 and the chief guest for the ceremony was Mr. Ehsan, Deputy Director Student affairs with Associate Dean of IESE, Dr. Ishtiaq Qazi also in attendance. Medals and crests were awarded to the winners of the IESE Sports Gala.

MCS wins Intra-NUST Cricket Tournament

The Intra-NUST Cricket Tournament was held in Army Medical College, Rawalpindi from December 6 to 8. Six teams from different campuses of NUST participated in the event. AMC and H12 were given direct qualification to the semi-finals as they were finalists from last year. Military College of Signals (MCS) played their first match against Military College of Engineering (MCE) and won the match by 6 wickets. The first semi-final was played on the very next day in which MCS beat AMC, champions of last year.

In the second semi-final, H-12 won over EME College to qualify for the finals. In the final encounter, MCS batted well and gave the opponents the challenge of 157 runs which was also the highest score for the tournament. H-12 had a shaky start and was sent back to the pavilion in the 19th over for a total of 116 runs, giving MCS an impressive victory of 41 runs in the tournament. The tournament trophy was given to the winning team of Military College of Signals.
SCME triumphs in Inter-department Futsal League 2013

The most awaited event, Intra-NUST futsal tournament was held in December. A total of 8 teams competed in the league, and each team comprised of great players who performed exceptionally well throughout the year. SCME, SEECS and NBS proved to be top contenders from the start with a good display of football skills. SADA, IESE, SMME and SCEE also performed well.

The semi-final was played between SCME and SEECS, in which SCME grabbed the winning trophy for the NUST futsal league championship. One of the best sights to see in the ground was the enormous SCME crowd that turned up for every single game of their team. In the end, SCME topped the league table with 16 points with SEECS taking the second spot with 11 points. NBS stood third with 9 points, SCEE fourth with 7 points.

SCME Cricket Tournament

School of Chemical and Materials Engineering organised the Cricket Tournament in December 2013. Both the faculty and students attended the event and was played between different classes. The first semi-final was played between batch 05 and faculty where faculty scored 78-6 while batch 05 made a score of 83 in 8 overs. The second semi final followed between batches 04 and 03, with batch 04 emerging as the winners. The final was played between batch 05 and 04 in SCME Sports ground.

In the words of the commentator, batch 05 beat batch 04 ‘comfortably’ as batch 05 achieved the opponent’s total score of 88 in 9.2 overs quite comprehensively. Man of the match was Hammad Ahmad while Ahmed Butt was declared Man of the Tournament. President SCME Sports Society, Nouman Aslam Khan, expressed his delight at the enthusiasm displayed by students and faculty towards cricket.

NCSC, TABA organize NUST FIFA 14 Tournament

TABA Foundation is an effort to bring all national and international welfare Trusts on one platform to carry out capacity building of Disaster Management, Health and Education Sectors. Recently TABA Team of NUST Community Service Club (NCSC) organized fund raising events to help and provide support to the orphans in Islamabad and Rawalpindi. One of the events held this semester was an All NUST FIFA 14 tournament, an online game in which participants from all over the campus competed in knockout stages till the epic finale was won by Usman Abid of SEECS.

Taba provides a platform for the collaboration of these National/International Welfare Trusts with over 80 member organizations in its network. TABA Youth Chapter (a sub-organization of TABA Foundation) aims to provide the TABA platform to youth lead organizations, while at the same time promoting youth activism and welfare activities.
Intra-NUST Squash Competition

Intra NUST Squash Competition was organized under the supervision of NUST Sports Branch from 29 November to 1 December at College of Aeronautical Engineering (CAE), Risalpur. CAE hosted the competition in which teams from H-12 Campus, AMC, MCS, E&ME, MCE and CAE participated. Air Cdre Abdul Munem Khan, Commandant CAE was the Chief Guest for the event.

H-12 Campus was knocked out in the first match of the tournament against AMC. Second match was played between MCS and MCE in which MCE emerged as victors. First semi-final was played between EME and AMC on 30 November and EME won the match 2 to nil. Same results followed in the match between CAE and MCE in which CAE took the victory. The final of the tournament was played on 1 December between CAE and EME. EME was able to score with a clean sheet against CAE and were declared the winners of the championship.

NUST Penalty Shootout Challenge

The TABA team of NUST Community Service Club (NCSC) organized the ‘All NUST Penalty Shootout Challenge’ in which football fanatics from the campus participated from different schools. The rules were simple: one on one, 5 penalty hits at goal and 5 shots to block. Hasan Saeed of SEECS was declared the winner of the event and received the winning trophy of the tournament. The funds collected from this event were used to help orphans and other deserving children in the capital and surrounding areas.

Racket Week at SMME

The student Council of SMME (SCS) organized the Racket Week starting from December 11 which consisted of badminton and table tennis competitions. The sports activity was held to reinvigorate the student body after their papers. The table tennis competition was held during the day time while the badminton competition took place in the evening at 1700 hrs. Many enthusiastic participants gathered in the ground when it was time for them to prove their abilities. From the very first round of the competition, the talent of the contestants could be seen who put in their best efforts to stay in the game. In the badminton competition, Ahmed Jabbar and Fasiullah made it to the where Ahmed Jabbar outwitted him in the Singles competition. In the doubles category, the pair of Ahmed Jabbar and Ali Altaf were crowned champions after their victory against Shafaat Mushtaq and Usman Hameed. In the table tennis competition, Hamza Jamil stood first in the singles category after his final game against Hassaan Qamar. Hamza Jamil also won the doubles competition along with his partner Omer Idrees by defeating Subhan and Zaid Ali in the finals. Mr Zafar of the SMME faculty presented shields to the winners of the Racket Week.
Rock Climbing Competition

NUST Adventure Club took a group of students to Saidpur Village at a rock climbing sight on December 7. The event was not a training session, but a selection round for an upcoming rock climbing competition. The participants and the organizing committee hiked across the village to the rock climbing sight. The event head, Mir Manzar Ilahi, set the equipment and gave a demonstration to the participants. Using adequate safety precautions such as a harness and a helmet, the participants were allowed to experience rock climbing one after another. After a detailed scrutiny and a number of trials, a total of ten participants were shortlisted for the competition. The shortlisted participants were trained by NUST Adventure Club executives for the next two days before the competition.

The competition, a national event organized by the Pakistan Adventure Club on the International Mountain day was held on December 11. Afaq Baig of NBS and Mahrukh Shahid of SCME secured first and second positions respectively.

All Pakistan Intervarsity Rifle Shooting (Women) Championship

All Pakistan Intervarsity Rifle Shooting (Women) Championship 2013-14 was held at Gun & Country Club, PSB Islamabad from 21-25 December. NUST organized and hosted the championship in which seven women teams from different universities across Pakistan participated i.e. NUST, Punjab University, Government College University Lahore, SBB Women University Peshawar, Quaid-e-Azam University and University of Lahore. Draws meeting of the championship were conducted under the Organizing Secretary of the Championship, Mrs. Robina Anser, Deputy Director Sports, NUST on 21 December.

In the competition that followed, Punjab University grabbed first position while University of Lahore and GCU were first and second runner-ups respectively. Prizes were distributed by Mrs. Robina Anser to all medal winners, amounting Rs. 90,000.

All Pakistan Intervarsity Rifle Shooting (Men) Championship 2013-14 was held from 26-29 December at the same venue with collaboration of HEC in which 11 university teams participated. Draws meeting of the championship were conducted on 25 December. The NUST Rifle Shooting team comprised of six players and was able to grab 5th position in whole championship.
NUST bags 2nd prize in International Anti-corruption Week

Minahil, a chemical engineering student from School of Chemical and Materials Engineering (SCME), made NUST proud by securing the second position in the International Anti-corruption Week celebrations here in Islamabad. After a series of deliberations, Minahil was selected by the NUST Literary Circle to represent NUST at the International Anti-Corruption week celebrations jointly organized by the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) and the United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime (UNODC) at the Islamabad Club. She was to speak on the ‘Role of Society in the prevention of corruption’. She was awarded a certificate and cash prize. UNODC country representative, Mr. Brown who appreciated Minahil’s arguments and innovative solutions to the problem of corruption. Her speech was centred on the principle that in order for the society to contribute positively towards the elimination of corruption, it must rid itself of the hypocrisy of criticizing corruption in theory, while embracing it in reality.

Team NUST qualifies for ROBOCUP-Brazil 2014

Team-NUST has qualified for the RoboCup 2014 (Brazil) in the Humanoids: Standard Platforms League. This makes it the first team from Pakistan to qualify for any Humanoids League challenge of RoboCup. The credit goes to the team working at the SMME RISE Lab & Research Center under the expert supervision of Dr Yasar Ayaz, HoD R&AI, NUST and Director RISE Lab & Research Center, NUST. The team will be going head to head with top teams from around the world. RoboCup is abbreviated form of “Robot Soccer World Cup”. It will be held from 19th to 25th July in João Pessoa, Brazil just a week after FIFA World Cup 2014. RoboCup competitions are held every year with the aim of having a team of autonomous robots by the mid of 21st century, which will compete in a game of soccer against the most recent world champion. In the ‘Standard Platform League’, all the participating team use identical humanoids robots called NAO. All the participating teams have resources (cameras, sensors, field etc) under same conditions. So, the competition comes down to having better behaviour, strategy planning, resource management, biped stability, AI and of course programming.
NUST official joins International Accreditation Panel for Medical School, Oman

Engr Muhammad Ismail, Director Quality Assurance NUST, was invited by Oman Academic Accreditation Authority (OAAA) to join the panel of international reviewers to conduct the accreditation visit of Armed Forces Medical Services School (AFMSS), Oman. The accreditation visit was carried out from December 15 to 20. Engineer Ismail was appointed to the Register of External Reviewers of Oman Accreditation Council (OAAA) in 2007. The Council follows a rigorous process to approve the reviewers. Engr Ismail earned his appointment to OAAA’s Register of Reviewers by virtue of his distinguished credentials in the field of instructions, academic management and quality assurance in the realm of higher education. The experience so gained will help him to organize the Internal Academic Quality Audits of NUST Institutions in a better manner and also contribute more effectively in the Institutional Performance Evaluation of national universities arranged by Higher Education Commission, Pakistan.

CAE student gets second position at IEEE National Conference

Flying Officer Fahad Malik, an undergraduate student of 75th Engineering Course, College of Aeronautical Engineering, presented his work on ‘GSM Downlink Protocol Analysis and Decoding Using Open-Source Hardware and Software’ at IEEE 2nd National Conference on Information Assurance held at Military College of Signals, Rawalpindi. His supervisor was Dr Jehanzeb Burki who is a faculty member in Avionics Department of College of Aeronautical Engineering.

Amcolians win Thematic Films competition at Olympiad’13

Thematic films competition was held this year in EME Olympiad’13. Universities and colleges from all over Punjab participated in the event. Furqan Shahid and his team from Army Medical College not only stood 1st in the contest but their film also received a massive appreciation from the audience. Team leader furqan Shahid was interviewed by ATV News channel and his film was also screened on the channel. Furqan Shahid was the runner-up in the same event last year but this time he really made AMC proud by becoming the winner of the event.
**ASAB faculty awarded post doctoral fellowship at Peking University, China**

Dr. Ayesha Mujeeb, Assistant Professor at Atta-ur-Rahman School of Applied Biosciences (ASAB) was awarded a post doctoral fellowship award for ASAB faculty at Peking University China. Her course of study will extend till April 2014 and is funded by Chinese Academy of Sciences. Dr. Ayesha got her PhD from University of Manchester, United Kingdom. Her research interests include engineering and design of biomaterials developed for the reconstruction of cartilage, bone, heart valves, tendon, skin and other connective tissues, using stem cells and other cell lines. She has worked on various topics of Industrial Biotechnology including Tissue Engineering and Biomaterials Science.

**Dr Sadaf Zaidi receives Second Prize in Annual Health Conference - Malaysia**

Dr. Sadaf Zaidi presented her work in an oral presentation in Malaysia at University of Sains Islam, Malaysia as a part of the annual health conference on ‘Understanding Infections In Health Care: The Recent Trends’. She won the second prize among 35 participants from around the world.

**MCS faculty publishes research papers in international journals**

Dr Muhammad Hanif, FM at Military College of Signals (MCS) has published two research papers during the month of December 2013 in HEC approved ISI indexed journals. First paper titled “Spectral studies of nanosecond laser interaction with magnesium sulphate target in air” was published in Cambridge Journal of Plasma Physics, and second paper titled “Laser induced breakdown spectroscopic study of ammonium nitrate plasma” in Springer Journal of Plasma Physics Reports. During the year 2013, he has published eight research papers in various international journals and presented one research paper in an international conference.

**SMME student presents paper at ICOMS 2013**

Quratulain, a Mechanical Engineering student from School of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering (SMME) NUST presented her paper ‘A comparative study of exterior body shapes of formula student cars’ at the International Conference of Modelling and Simulation (ICOMS) 2013 which was held from November 25 to 27 at Air University, Islamabad. More than 400 technical papers were submitted and only 43% were qualified for oral presentations and appeared in conference proceedings book. The paper was co-authored by Assistant Professor Dr. Muhammad Sajid and Assistant Professor Dr. Samiur Rahman Shah. Her future plans are to pursue career in research and development.
“Nothing ever becomes real till it is experienced” - John Keats